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POLICE TOLD LIBYA PLANS TO TRAIN ABORIGINES IN TERRORISM

Commonwealth Games Threat

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 10 Mar 82 p 1

[Text]

Libya is led by Colonel Gadaffi who has an international reputation as a trader in terror and teacher of radical elements.

It is believed that the government also has been told independently from sources with links in Libya that Colonel Gadaffi has agreed to train Aborigines.

Government sources confirmed last night that police had received a report on the Libyan trip which was part of the Aboriginal land rights Games campaign.

The report claimed the matter was discussed at a recent Brisbane meeting of the National Aboriginal Conference.

The report said that Mr Charles Perkins, an opponent of the Queensland Government's handling of the lands rights issue, had attended the meeting, the sources claimed.

The matter had come up in a closed session of the council and police were now investigating the information which came from a "highly reliable informant."

But Mr Perkins told The Courier-Mail last night that the report was "absolute rubbish."

"I know every Aboriginal involved in the movement throughout Australia and none of them is considering anything like this," Mr Perkins said. "An Aboriginal delegation is going to Libya and other African countries but they are going over there for other purposes. They are not going over there to be trained."

Mr Perkins said the reports were de-

liberate fabrication by the Queensland police force or persons with vested interests. Aborigines were not associated with terror tactics and never would be.

"We have never hurt anybody and never intend to. Aborigines are not a terror-tactic type of people," Mr Perkins said.

"I think you will be getting quite a few things like this later this year that are not correct. There was a report that I was going. If this is true, then I'm still waiting for someone to send my tickets. I would like a holiday in the Mediterranean," he said.

A spokesman for the Police Minister, Mr Hinze, confirmed late last night that police had been handed a report about overseas training in Libya.

"This report is now being investigated," the spokesman said. He would not elaborate.

Earlier this year, the State Government was told that a group of Maori activists also were training to disrupt the Games.

As public concern for the Games' safe conduct mounts, State Parliament yesterday passed the controversial security legislation aimed at preventing violence.

In another move, the Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, said he would speak next month to the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr Muldoon, about Maori involvement.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen is expected to raise the matter of travel entitlements, following his remarks last week on New Zealand television.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen said then he

would rather New Zealand kept any person suspected of being an activist in that country.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen said yesterday he would speak to Mr Muldoon during a brief New Zealand visit for a function in the town where the Premier was born.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen revealed the trip during a press conference where he discussed the renewed threat of a Games boycott.

African and Caribbean countries are not expected to attend if New Zealand is allowed to compete.

But Mr Bjelke-Petersen said: "I am sure New Zealand will come. If anyone else does not want to come, so what. It does not worry me in the slightest."

Mr Bjelke-Petersen said the Commonwealth Games Foundation plan to use an Aboriginal-style message stick to carry the Queen's opening message was "hoo-ha."

"It is making a very big joke of the whole thing — cheapening the whole opening. It is trying to play up to Aborigines who are already played up to, too much by too many people," he told the press conference.

"I don't think the Queen would think very much of it."

But Mr Bjelke-Petersen said later his remarks had been based on a false premise. He had read a report referring to an Aboriginal message stick being used.

"However, I have since seen drawings of the actual baton that will be used to convey the message and it has my support," he said.

Reaction of Officials

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 11 Mar 82 pp 1, 3

[Text]

A QUEENSLAND Police report that Aboriginals plan to study in Libya terror tactics which they can use at the Commonwealth Games has gone to the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser.

This was revealed yesterday by the Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, who confirmed the report's existence and said its contents were disturbing.

"We are deeply worried about the information that has come to us from police, although I cannot go into detail," he said.

"But I have informed Mr Fraser. It is a serious matter when you find there are so many statements being made about what is going to happen at the Games."

According to the report, six Aboriginals are to train under Libya's leader, Colonel Gaddafi, internationally known as a dealer in terrorism.

The Opposition Leader, Mr Casey, said the report had suddenly materialised to put fear into the minds of Queenslanders. It was part of the Premier's confrontation syndrome.

Through the Commonwealth Games security legislation, the Premier had set the stage for a battle the public did not want, he said.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen denied that the report was an attempt at provocation, saying: "We have to be aware of what is happening."

Police investigations were proceeding and if the information from "reliable sources" were true, the government would take the "necessary" action.

It was ridiculous to suggest the report had been fabricated in the light of the threats to disrupt the Games.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen said when told that Libya was not on the itinerary of the Aboriginals going to Africa: "Don't worry about where they are going. Do you think they are on a Sunday school picnic or out for the good of their health? It is not that group necessarily."

Mr Casey said he doubted reports that Colonel Gaddafi had agreed to train Aboriginals.

"I doubt that Colonel Gaddafi would even know where Queensland is," he said. "The only similarity between Colonel Gaddafi and Queensland is the style of leadership."

The leader of an Aboriginal group which is going to Africa to try to organise a Commonwealth Games boycott denied yesterday that Libya and terrorism were on the agenda.

The North Queensland Land Council chairman, Mr Mick Miller, said the only time violence and terrorism were mentioned was by the government.

Mr Miller said a three-man delegation would fly to Africa next month to try to persuade black African nations to boycott the Games in support of Aboriginal land rights.

The other two members would be National Aboriginal Council Queensland chairman, Mr Steve Mamm, and Foundation for Aboriginal and Islanders Research Action executive officer, Mr Bob Weatherall.

Mr Mamm was in Canberra yesterday and could not be contacted but Mr Weatherall also denied plans to learn terrorism in Libya. He said the "recent" NAC meeting that the police report referred to could have been no earlier than last September.

Mr Miller said from Cairns yesterday: "Libya has not even been mentioned as part of the itinerary. He said there was no intention to use violence during the Games to highlight the problems of Queensland Aboriginals.

"We have said over and over we will be behaving peacefully. The only violence will be from the police," he said.

"It has always been the government and the Police Minister, Mr Hinze, saying we must prepare for violence. Terrorism is the last thing on our minds."

Mr Miller said protests would be held in Brisbane, including outside some Games venues.

He believed the "report" was dreamed up by the government to take the heat off allegations of corruption in the police force and the Games legislation.

"Mr Bjelke-Petersen is such a hard liner he would do credit to the Ku Klux Klan in the deep south of America," Mr Miller said.

"With his clannish behavior and outlook on Aboriginal people, he is the one provoking all this talk of violence. It is time Queensland advanced into the 20th century and was more tolerant of human rights."

Mr Miller said the African trip was being paid for by groups sympathetic to the Aboriginal cause.

It would last about four weeks and the delegation would visit other African nations besides those invited to the Games. Libya was not one of them.

He believed the delegation could successfully organise a boycott.

Mr Miller said the threat could be avoided if the Federal Government used its powers to acquire land for Aboriginals in Queensland.

In Canberra yesterday, Aboriginal leader Mr Charlie Perkins said he would make a detailed statement on the Commonwealth Games and land rights in Queensland despite a Federal Government gag.

Mr Perkins said he would hold a press conference either tomorrow or next Tuesday.

Mr Perkins was censured last month for claiming that the Commonwealth Games would not go ahead unless Aboriginals were given acceptable land rights.

Both the Prime Minister, Mr Fraser, and the Aboriginal Affairs Minister, Senator Baume, gagged Mr Perkins from further debate with the Queensland Government.

Mr Perkins' decision to go public again was sparked by the passing of Commonwealth Games legislation in the Queensland Parliament on Tuesday.

Mr Perkins said yesterday: "This is the most disastrous, iniquitous legislation ever enacted." He said it was an example of how backward Australia was in terms of civil liberties.

Mr Perkins also denied claims that Aboriginals intended to go to Libya to learn terror tactics for the Games.

Editorial Comment

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 11 Mar 82 p 4

[Text] The Police Minister, Mr Hinze, should provide the public with full details of the alleged plot claimed in a Queensland police report to involve six Aboriginals going to Libya for terrorist training.

Queensland police or other State Government agents have publicly "exposed" alleged conspiracy. Now the Premier has joined in the act.

The timing of the disclosure makes it hard for many Australians to accept the accuracy of the police report.

It seems more than mere coincidence that the report was leaked to the press on the day the controversial Commonwealth Games legislation was before State Parliament. Liberal backbenchers' amendments have improved the legislation, but the draconian police-state skeleton remains.

A spokesman for the Police Minister has confirmed that police have been handed a report about overseas training in Libya, and that the report is being investigated, but the spokesman would not elaborate.

Why not elaborate? This is a grave matter if, as a police spy has claimed, it involves terrorist training for Australian citizens.

The minister himself should elaborate quickly. Every day he fails to do so he keeps the public in doubt about this serious business, and could be doing a terrible injustice to leading Aboriginal people.

In Brisbane?

The police report accuses the National Aboriginal Conference of discussing terrorist training in Libya at a recent conference in Brisbane. Is this the conference at which the decision to send terrorists was made?

When was the conference held and for how long has the Police Department been in possession of the information concerning it?

The police report further said that the Aboriginal Development Commission chairman, Mr Charles Perkins, was present at the discussion. But Mr Perkins, a forthright proponent of the Aboriginal cause, says that the police report is "absolute rubbish."

Mr Perkins' rebuttal should be accepted, at least until the Minister or his department produce facts.

In other words, Mr Hinze should do what only last week he was demanding that others do. He and his department should produce evidence to back the now-public allegations of a police force informer about six Aboriginals and terrorism.

If they cannot do this they should acknowledge the error of their information. It would be highly damaging to race relations if an unsubstantiated accusation of this type were to be allowed to remain.

Libyan Visit Preparations

Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 13-14 Mar 82 p 3

[Article by Marsali McKinnon]

[Text]

THE Libyan Government was negotiating with Aborigines to arrange a "friendship" visit to Libya, a spokesman for Libyan groups in Australia said yesterday.

Mr Bill Hartley of the Arab-Libyan Australian Friendship Association said a visit by Aborigines to Libya had been mooted some time this year although plans were still undetermined.

But Mr Hartley, a prominent member of the socialist left faction of the Victorian Labor Party, dismissed allegations by the Queensland Government that Aborigines were being sent to Libya for 'terri-

ist training as impossible.

"Mr Hinze, the Queensland Police Minister, has made these charges, but his credibility is not of a very high order in his home State, let alone anywhere else in Australia," said Mr Hartley.

Federal Government sources said yesterday that the Queensland allegations were being pursued by the appropriate authorities, but would add no details.

Mr Hartley said: "If the Libyans recognised the position of Aborigines as one that necessitated blacks engaging in a liberation struggle, and if the Libyans therefore invited Aborigines to their country on that basis, then the visit would take place."

Mr Hartley, who makes fre-

quent trips to the Middle East and is acknowledged to have close contact with Libyan Government officials, said such a friendship visit had no sinister motive.

The Chairman of the National Aboriginal Conference, Australia's biggest Aboriginal body, Mr Roy Nichols, yesterday said it seemed Mr Bjelke-Petersen would be "positively disappointed" if violence did not occur during the Commonwealth Games.

Mr Nichols warned visiting black athletes to wear banners proclaiming that they were not Australian Aborigines to protect themselves against Queensland police brutality.

The Federal Aboriginal Affairs Minister, Mr Baume, refused to comment yesterday.

TROUBLES BETWEEN MIZO VOLUNTEERS, DACCA REPORTED

Calcutta THE SUNDAY STATESMAN in English 4 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

AIZAWL, April 3.—Mizo National Front volunteers have been asked to liquidate their bases in the Ruma Bazar area of Bangladesh and asked to merge with the Santi Bahini by the new martial law administrator, according to a message received from across the border, reports UNI.

The message said the MNF activists resented the decision of the new administrator and reportedly refused to merge with the Santi Bahini which had been engaged in guerrilla Chakma rebels in the Chittagong Hill tracts.

The MNT however, did not give any straight reply to the Bangladesh regime's order and said that no decision could be taken without discussing the matter in the MNT National Council.

The message added that the MNT National Council was considering the question of shifting their hideouts from Bangladesh to the Arakan Hill tracts of North Burma. "But no clear indication of shifting the hideouts has so far been received", it said.

Meanwhile, official sources told reporters that hardcore MNT rebels were at present moving about freely in Aizawl town and it was pre-

sumed that they might try to create a law and order problem in the capital. Security forces had been alerted to face any kind of situation.

The sources believed that the hardcore elements now taking shelter in Tumul hill, bordering Tripura after the crackdown in January, were regrouping somewhere near Tripura border to make new attempts to create a disorderly situation in the Union Territory.

Another report recently said there was an armed clash between the Bangladesh Army and Chakma rebels in Chittagong hill tract on March 22. The casualty figures were not immediately known.

According to a newspaper report Army was still set to launch operation "flush-out" in the entire North-East.

CSO: 4220/7122

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE RELEASES 1981-82 ANNUAL REPORT

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Apr 82 p 5

[Text] India's total exports between April and December last year recorded a 15.2 percent increase over the corresponding period of the preceding year and imports came down to 11.9 percent as compared to the 39 percent in 1980-81, reports PTI.

This has been indicated in the annual report of the Ministry of Commerce for the year 1981-82.

According to the report, the improvement in general economic conditions and a marked step-up in key sectors of the economy such as steel, coal, power and transport, combined with a favourable outlook on agricultural output indicate that the trade performance in 1981-82 will be considerably better than last year.

The tendency towards increased adverse trade balance is thus expected to be arrested in 1981-82.

Official commodity-wise export import data for 1981-82 which is provisionally available for the first half of the year indicates an increase of more than 20 percent in exports of a number of primary and manufactured products over the corresponding period of the last year.

The report states that some important export commodities such as engineering goods, chemicals and allied products, gems, jewellery, marine products and leather and leather manufactures have shown signs of buoyancy and are likely to realise high rates of export growth in 1981-82.

Import trends during the first half of 1981-82 indicate sizable increases in the value of imports of iron and steel, manufacture of metals, synthetic and re-generated fibres, metallic ferrous ores and metal scrap, paper and paper board and textile yarn, fibres and made-ups.

The items which have registered sizable decline during April/September 1981 as compared to the corresponding period of the previous year include vegetable oils, organic and inorganic chemicals, medicinal and pharmaceutical products, chemical materials and products, rough precious and semi-precious stones, non-ferrous metals, non-metallic mineral manufactures and machinery and transport equipment.

While crude fertiliser imports have shown an increase of nine percent, there has been a marginal decline in the imports of manufactured fertilisers during the period.

According to the report, in the case of petroleum and petroleum products, the largest item of imports, the increase in value terms in the first half of 1981-82 was contained at six percent as compared to a sharp and successive increase of 19 percent in 1979-80 and 71 percent in 1980-81.

The marked slow down in the import growth in 1981-82 is a reflection of the step-up in economic activity as well as increased domestic production leading to import substitution, the report adds.

An estimated 13,000 million metres of cloth is targeted for production during the sixth Plan. There would be an increase of 2,900 million metres (27 percent) over the 1977-78 figures of 10,708 million metres.

CSO: 4220/7124

GANDHI MEETS WITH AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER 3 APRIL

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Apr 82 pp 1, 7

[Text] India and Afghanistan have agreed to reactivate the Indo-Afghan Joint Commission and a meeting of the commission is likely to take place in late May or June.

The Afghan Government had been requesting the Government of India to reactivate the commission for some time and an agreement to this effect was reached during a 45-minute meeting between Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and visiting Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost in the capital on Saturday.

Mrs Gandhi said India was willing to cooperate with Afghanistan particularly in those areas which would be of benefit for the Afghan people.

Mr Dost, who arrived in Delhi in the afternoon on way to Kuwait to attend the Non-Aligned Bureau meeting on Palestine, delivered a letter from Afghan President Babrak Karmal to Mrs Gandhi.

The letter is learnt to have highlighted the important role India has been playing in sustaining peace and stability in the region.

Greetings

Mrs Gandhi, in turn, asked Mr Dost to convey her greetings to Mr Karmal and the friendly people of Afghanistan.

Mr Dost expressed his Government's continuing interest in consolidating the friendly ties between India and Afghanistan and acquainted Mrs Gandhi of his assessment of the regional situation in the context of the forthcoming visit to Afghanistan of the UN Secretary-General's special representative Diego Cordovez. He further informed her of the recent developments in Afghanistan.

During his meeting with Mrs Gandhi, the Afghan Foreign Minister was accompanied by Dr Mohammed Hasan Sharq, ambassador of Afghanistan to India. Present at the talks on the Indian side were Indian ambassador to Afghanistan

Jyotindra Nath Dixit and Secretary dealing with Pakistan and Afghanistan in the External Affairs Ministry K. Natwar Singh.

Earlier, on his arrival, the Afghan Foreign Minister said that given goodwill on the part of Iran and Pakistan, a solution could be found to the present South West Asia crisis.

CSO: 4220/7124

INDIA PREPARES PROPOSAL FOR TALKS WITH PAKISTAN

Madras THE HINDU in English 4 Apr 82 p 1

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 3.

As a confidence building measure, India has suggested to Pakistan that the two countries should first proceed with the proposal for a joint commission to create a better atmosphere for the resumption of the no-war dialogue in a more positive spirit of cooperation than mere renunciation of the use of force for settling outstanding disputes.

The proposal, which was informally conveyed to General Zia-Ul-Huq by the Indian Ambassador, Mr. Natwar Singh, in Islamabad earlier this week, before he left for Delhi to take up his new appointment as Secretary in charge of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran, is being followed up through diplomatic channels to get the stalled dialogue into stride again.

The Pakistan President hosted a farewell dinner in honour of Mr. Natwar Singh, a rare gesture that is not normally extended to an out-going Ambassador by a Head of State, presumably to demonstrate his desire for better Indo-Pakistan relations. The Indian envoy did not let go the opportunity to stress the desirability of setting up the joint commission to provide an institutional framework for dealing with bilateral problems, without waiting for the outcome of the no-war negotiations.

The initial reaction of General Zia was quite promising, but the Pakistan Foreign Office seemed to be dragging its feet under the mistaken belief that the no-war proposal might lose its primary importance, if the two countries proceeded with the proposed joint commission. So India took steps to assure Pakistan that its plea for setting up the joint commission first should not be misconstrued as a pre-condition for restarting the no-war talks, nor mistaken for an adroit attempt to inter-link the two proposals as though one was contingent on the other for achieving a breakthrough in Indo-Pakistan relations.

Draft ready: As the country that first proposed the establishment of the joint commission, it is India's turn to present a formal proposal to Pakistan as a starting point for further discussions on the subject, following its acceptance of the suggestion in principle during Mr. Agha Shahi's visit to Delhi. The necessary draft has accordingly been prepared by the External

Affairs Ministry for presentation to Pakistan after the preliminaries have been settled through diplomatic exchanges.

The Indian idea is that the no-war proposal also should have a positive content to serve as a promising basis for better understanding and closer cooperation. The Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, would be happy to see the concept developed into a broader theme that could acquire the character of a friendship treaty between the two neighbouring countries of the sub-continent in the larger interests of peace and stability in the region.

There are so many pending bilateral issues relating to trade, travel, pilgrimage, telecommunications, shipping, rail movements, civil aviation and cultural exchanges that it is very difficult to discuss each issue separately at different levels in the absence of an institutional framework like a joint commission. It is for this purpose that India suggested the creation of such a commission, not to divert attention from the no-war proposal and much less to keep the present tensions alive under the guise of normalising relations.

New moderation: After the unfortunate performance in the Human rights Commission, Pakistan has of late been avoiding abrasive references to the Kashmir question to mollify India's ruffled sentiments. The fact that General Zia made no mention at all of Kashmir in his speech at the banquet he had given in honour of the visiting Chinese Vice-Premier has been duly noted in Delhi. And if this sense of moderation is kept up, it should be possible to get the Indo-Pak talks going again.

UNI reports:

The Pakistan President Gen. Zia Ul Haq has expressed the hope that the present "deadlock" in the talks on the no-war pact with India would be resolved soon. Radio Pakistan has reported.

"We want to improve our relations with India and that is why we have proposed a no-war pact", he told his Advisory Council at Islamabad.

General Zia once again ruled out transfer of power to the people and the holding of elections in the country on the plea that "the situation is not yet favourable for it".

CSO: 4220/7123

GANDHI REPORTED DISSATISFIED WITH PARTY HIGH COMMAND

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 1.

The Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi has started devoting more time to party affairs to curb the creeping indiscipline and strive for greater cohesion, based on loyalty, commitment and competence.

According to some of her confidants, she is all set to crack the whip and, if it becomes necessary, expel disloyal elements to set a sobering example even at the risk of weakening her hold over some of the faction-ridden States.

Apart from getting rid of the trouble-makers who have been creating pockets of disaffection within the party organisation, Mrs. Gandhi proposes to discard some of the deadwood from the Central and State Cabinets to make way for more promising persons of ability and experience. But it is not yet clear how ruthless she is going to be in carrying out this two-pronged operation, before the deepening ferment starts assuming the dimensions of incipient revolt against the leadership of her pro-consuls in several Congress (I)-run States.

Starting at the top: What is quite evident is that she is dissatisfied with the way the Congress (I) High Command has been functioning from Delhi with little or no knowledge of party affairs in the States. The AICC office is in for a big shake-up as she begins to take greater interest in party management, since some of the general secretaries have clearly lost her confidence.

The cross-voting in a couple of States during the Rajya Sabha elections is seen as an unmistakable reflection of the simmering discontent in the party over the arbitrary way the High Command had gone about selecting the candidates. It is also considered an index of the growing resentment against the manner in which the central leadership has been imposing Chief Ministers on the States.

Advisers in disfavour: The Prime Minister has made her displeasure known in no uncertain terms to those of her advisers who were responsible for this mismanagement by attempting to dispense patronage in her name. She

has started realising that some of these advisers, who have no roots of their own, could hardly advise her on the choice of the right candidates, capable of inspiring confidence in their States.

Mrs. Gandhi is not unaware of the resentment caused by Chief Ministers trying to imitate her manner of functioning, without her charisma and comprehension, and, in the process, unwittingly or unwittingly, rubbing many of their party colleagues on the wrong side. The *tiny* discriminate fund collections and questionable life-styles of some of them have also been ruining the reputation of the party in their States and soiling her reputation, in defending them in the face of bitter criticism.

Dispensing favours: But the dissatisfaction of the rank and file is not confined to the State units since the Parliamentary party also is getting restive over the favours that continue to be conferred on a small coterie and the way some of her confidants have been throwing their weight about, exerting undue influence by misusing her name. This rumbling discontent has not yet surfaced into open dissidence, but it is strong enough to make her increasingly conscious of the need for some timely steps to restore the morale of the party and remove legitimate grievances.

Choice of right candidates: The Prime Minister is planning to make an intensive tour of the country during the summer recess to take a closer look at the performance of her party in the States. There is no decision yet about the proposed snap poll in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka pending a reappraisal of the party position in the wake of the recent developments.

In any case, there will be greater emphasis now on selection of better candidates when the time comes for the Assembly elections, in any case, not later than next February when they will be due. The emergence of Mr. N. T. Rama Rao as leader of a regional party is causing some disquiet since he can cut into the traditional Indira votes even if he does not prove to be another MGR with a similar mass appeal that can help to carry the bulk of the voters with him.

'UNI' REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF MANEKA GANDHI

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Apr 82 pp 1, 7

[Text]

MRS Maneka Gandhi had been in touch with Lok Dal leader George Fernandes for over a year, apparently to draw up her political plans, according to informed sources, reports UNI.

Barring Mr Raj Narain, who is now in the Democratic Socialist Party, Mr Fernandes is the only opposition leader to come out openly in support of Mrs Maneka. Other opposition leaders have scrupulously refrained from involvement in what they regard as 'a family affair'.

HER OPTION

According to these sources, Mrs Gandhi did not throw out Mrs Maneka as alleged by the latter.

On 29 March she had only asked her to choose between two options—either stop her activities against the party being carried on from her own official residence or 'make other arrangements for her stay'.

Mrs Maneka was bent on going ahead with her 'anti-party activities' and hence left the house.

The sources said that by referring to the 'family background' of Mrs Maneka Gandhi, the Prime Minister was not casting any reflection of Punjabis or the Sikh community. (Mrs Maneka is the grand-daughter of the late Mr Daler Singh, a well-known socio-economist).

She had only referred to the background of the Nehru family which was totally involved in the freedom struggle, which was different from that of Mrs Maneka. This was only stating the obvious, and not to put the

Nehru family on a higher pedestal over the rest.

According to these sources, Mrs Maneka Gandhi had behaved in an 'indifferent and rude way' towards the Prime Minister right from the time she joined the family as a life-partner of Mr Sanjay Gandhi. Not to speak of the regard which a daughter-in-law should show to a mother-in-law, even the respect which any elder person in a family deserved was not shown by her towards Mrs Gandhi it was alleged.

But Mrs Gandhi reportedly had borne all this slight, both when she was in power and later, during the crisis period—1977-1980—when the Janata and Lok Dal governments were 'hounding her and Sanjay'.

MOTHER'S AMBITION

According to these sources, as soon as Mr Sanjay Gandhi died, Mrs Ametewar Anand, mother of Mrs Maneka, wanted her to be made president of the Indian Youth Congress—the youth wing of the AICC-I. But Mrs Gandhi reportedly felt that she could not be so catapulted. Mrs Maneka should choose some specific area of social work and move her way up to the presidency of the Youth Congress in a year or two it was thought.

But Mrs Anand and Mrs Maneka started nursing a grouse on that account, perhaps in the mistaken belief that Mrs Maneka was being put off to boost Mr Rajiv Gandhi. The fact was that Rajiv Gandhi was not at all interested in the post sources said.

The sources said that the Lucknow convention on 28 March was part of a well-conceived plan to get some of the official Cong-I nominees from UP to the Rajya Sabha defeated in the process returning Mr Raj Narain to the Rajya Sabha to carry on a crusade against Mrs Gandhi. But because of vote management by Mr Arun Nehru, MP, who is in charge of UP and Mr M.L. Fotedar, political secretary of the Prime Minister, this plan came to naught.

Still, Mr Akbar Ahmed, sponsor of the convention and his associates managed to see that some party MLAs deliberately invalidated their vote. Baulked in this plan, Mr Akbar Ahmed and his friends are trying to indulge in a witch-hunt of these aides of Mrs Gandhi and alleging that they are misleading the Prime Minister.

Outside Elements

Meanwhile, the Cong-I high command is trying to ascertain if Mrs Maneka has launched the new political move only with the help of outside elements like the RSS, the BJP and DSP leader H.N. Bahuguna or if there is abetment by some disgruntled party leaders in the States and the Centre.

In this connection, the veracity of reports that former Maharashtra Chief Minister A.R. Antulay is the mainspring are being verified, specially in the context of the open dissidence by some party legislators in the Vidarbha region of the State and the reported desire of Mr Antulay to stage a comeback if he won the appeal in the High Court.

Some reports have suggested a possible link between Mrs Maneka's revolt and the surfacing of dissidence in the party in more than one State.

Vigilance has also been tightened by the party high command to check if any MPs jilted over not getting desired position of power are lending clandestine support to Mrs Maneka's activities.

High command sources said that any dissident activity in the States or the Centre designed to disrupt the party would be firmly put down.

CSO: 4220/7128

MORE SOVIET EXPERTS TO WORK AT VISHAKHAPATNAM

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 4 Apr 82 p 10

[Text] Bombay, April 3--The pace of construction of Vishakapatnam steel plant will be the highest as compared with the construction of similar projects in India, according to Mr K.V.B. Pantulu, general manager on the construction of the plant.

Being built with Soviet assistance, the plant will be equipped with Soviet design coke ovens, blast furnaces and continuing casting machine-units of advanced technology, Mr Pantulu said. For the convenience of the engineers and workers a township with all the required modern facilities will be built within the vicinity of the plant.

A number of units like coke ovens with dry quenching system and blast furnace which will be installed in Vishakapatnam steel plant are the Soviet specialty. Moreover, Mr Pantulu pointed out, India is erecting continuing casting machine in Vishakapatnam for the first time. These are units of advanced technology and "we hope with the help of Soviet experts to cope well with it and to complete the construction of the plant in time."

Five Soviet specialists have already joined Indian experts in the construction of the plant and 40 more Soviet specialists are expected this year to arrive in Vishakapatnam. "Many of us in the Indian steel family," said Mr Pantulu, "have worked shoulder to shoulder with Soviet specialists in Bhilai and Bokaro and we are thankful for their excellent cooperation." He hoped that this cooperation would grow in Vishakapatnam.

CSO: 4220/7121

PAPERS REPORT FOREIGN MINISTER'S BAHRAIN VISIT

4 April News Conference

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 5 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

BAHRAIN, April 4 (UNI).

THE external affairs minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, today reiterated India's concern at the worsening situation in West Asia and said that it was time the non-aligned movement asserted itself clearly in favour of a just solution to the West Asian problem.

Addressing newsmen here after his discussions with the Amir, Sheikh Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, and the foreign minister, Mr. Mohammed Bin Mubarak al Khalifa, he said that India's stand on the Golan Heights and the rights of Palestinians had been stated clearly "right from the beginning of the crisis." India was willing to give all support to the Arabs, and expressed hope that the non-aligned co-ordinating bureau meet beginning in Kuwait on Tuesday, would help in finding a solution to the problem.

About the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi's visit to Saudi Arabia on April 17, he said India attached great importance to it. Relations between the two countries would get a boost with her visit, he said.

Mr. Rao said that during the Kuwait meeting, the non-aligned ministers entrusted with the task of finding a solution to the Iran-Iraq war, may not have the occasion to discuss the issue.

Mr. Rao said the government was constantly reviewing the problems of Indians abroad. A new emigration law was also on the anvil and would be piloted soon in Parliament by the labour ministry. He assured that all specific complaints from overseas Indians would be properly looked into.

Meanwhile, the India ambassador, Mr. H. K. Mahajan told UNI that Mr. Nagasimha Rao had to decline an invitation from the Turkish federated Cyprus leader, Mr. Denktaş, during his visit to Nicosia from April 1 to 3.

Beirut (AP): Iran's foreign minister on Sunday rejected a United States call for urgent international efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war.

"The U.S. has no right to interfere in the affairs of the West Asia, since it is thousands of miles away," Mr. Ali Akbar Velayati stated in an interview broadcast by Tehran Radio.

Talks With Bahrain Counterpart

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

BAHRAIN, April 5.

The External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao, today told the Bahraini Prime Minister, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, of India's endeavour to create conditions of peace, stability and cooperation in the Gulf and on the Indian Sub-continent.

During their 45-minute talks, Sheikh Salman Al Khalifa spoke of the similarity of approach of the two countries in various international issues. He stressed the need for intensifying economic, cultural and other exchanges between the two countries.

He renewed the invitation extended to the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, to visit Bahrain at a convenient date.

Sheikh Khalifa praised the role of the

Indian community in Bahrain in developing the island.

Visits temple: Earlier, Mr. Narasimha Rao visited a temple believed to be 400 yrs old.

Addressing members of Indian community last night, Mr. Narasimha Rao said the Government was fully conscious of the problems of the Indians working abroad. It was not always possible to reverse the policies of the Government to suit their needs. The Government was trying to see how best their demands could be met within the overall policy framework.

He was happy that the Indian community abroad had brought good name to the country.
— PTI.

'UNI' Interview

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 6 Apr 82 p 3

[Text] Bahrain, April 5 (UNI)--Saudi Crown Prince Fahd's eight point peace proposal is "a new hope" for solving the crisis in tension-ridden West Asia, External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao said today.

In an interview here with UNI, Mr Rao spelt out four basic principles which must be adhered to in resolving the West Asian crisis. He indicated that Prime Minister Indira Gandhi would discuss the proposal during her forthcoming visit here on 17 April.

The four principles are: No nation has the right to occupy and retain by force another's territory. 2, All people had a right to determine the form of Government for themselves. 3, Recognised frontiers cannot be violated and all nations had the right to live in peace and security within such frontiers, and 4, All disputes be resolved through negotiations without recourse to the use of force.

Mr Rao said India and some Arab states had been holding discussions on possible steps to lessen great power military presence in the Indian Ocean.

He, however, said the prospects for a conference on making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace were doubtful because of the hesitation on the part of great powers for a meaningful participation in it. The conference, as endorsed by the United Nations General Assembly, is scheduled to be held soon.

On the continuing Iran-Iraq hostilities, Mr Rao said the four non-aligned Foreign Ministers entrusted with the job of finding a solution would meet in Kuwait during the coordination bureau meeting but said that "unfortunately the precondition put forward by the two countries for ending the war are still very far apart."

Meanwhile, Mr Rao today called on Prime Minister Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

The two leaders met for half an hour and reviewed the situation in West Asia. The Prime Minister appreciated the Indian stand on the Palestine issue, an official spokesman said.

Mr Narasimha Rao visited the Shreenath temple here along with leading Indians who are settled here for generations.

The temple, the only in Bahrain, is believed to be more than 400 years old.

CSO: 4220/7132

FINANCE MINISTER CONCERNED OVER DROP IN BRITISH AID

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 5 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] Bombay, April 4--The Union Finance Minister, Mr Pranab Mukherjee, today stressed the need to bring deficit financing under control, reports PTI.

"While the general economic situation in the country has improved tremendously in the past two years, the external payments situation remained difficult and called for action on our part," he said, while formally inaugurating the Export Import Bank of India (Exim Bank), here.

Later, at a seminar on Indo-British commercial relations, he expressed concern over the sharp fall in British aid to India. The trend was especially unfortunate in the context of the increasingly adverse trade balance with the U.K. and the availability of multilateral concessional funds.

The Finance Minister hoped for continued British assistance for restoring the quantum of bilateral aid and increasing the multilateral concessional assistance.

He acknowledged that Britain had been the largest of India's bilateral donors, helping with considerable concessional assistance, especially outright grants.

He referred to Indo-British trade which had expanded from Rs 300 crores in 1970-71 to about Rs 1,250 crores in 1980-81, an increase of 400 percent. However, since 1978-79 the growth had been more through Indian imports from the U.K. than British imports from India, resulting in an adverse balance for India.

Mr Mukherjee said that while India's growing developmental activity was expected to increase imports through the inflow of British capital goods and technology, its efforts to export more to Britain were hampered by protectionism and restrictions, particularly in regard to items in which India had a comparative cost advantage.

He conceded it was not always possible to have balanced trade with all countries. But the special requirement of developing countries had to be taken into account in the grant of easier access markets. Protectionism beyond a point was self-defeating.

CSO: 4220/7126

G.K. REDDY WRITES ON DEFENSE PROCUREMENT POLICY

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 5.

The Foreign Secretary-designate, Mr. M. K. Rasgotra, left for Paris tonight, accompanied by some defence experts, to discuss and, if possible, settle the remaining points relating to the initial purchase and progressive manufacture of Mirage-2000 planes.

As Ambassador to France, he has been closely associated from the beginning with various stages of these complex negotiations and the Government felt that it would be advisable if he paid a brief trip to Paris to finalise the transaction.

During recent visit of the Soviet Defence Minister, Marshal Ustinov, there were fairly detailed discussions on the range of equipment that Moscow can provide India to meet its defence requirements. In the light of these discussions the Government has come to some tentative conclusions about the right mix of interceptor and attack aircraft the IAF would need to cope with the anticipated threats in the region.

After Mr. Rasgotra's return from Paris, the Defence Ministry will decide how many Jaguars, MiG-27s and Mirage-2000s the country should acquire. It will take another two or three months to arrive at the necessary decisions after further talks with Britain, France and the Soviet Union.

Apart from the technical aspects that have more or less been settled during the earlier discussions with France, the financial terms have yet to be finalised to enable India to meet the heavy burden without imposing too heavy a strain on its balance of payments. There will have to be parallel discussions with the Soviet Union for setting the prices and payment procedures for the MiG-27s in

the light of Moscow's latest insistence on the inclusion of an escalation clause to offset the effects of inflation.

Army modernisation: The Government is taking similar steps to modernise the equipment of the Army to ensure greater mobility and better fire-power without going in for any expansion. The Army's communication facilities are also being updated to provide for proper field contact under operational conditions.

The Navy, too, is receiving due attention commensurate with its responsibilities of defending a vast coastline while securing the sea lines. The offshore oil installations also call for proper defence arrangements to protect them from possible enemy action. The Navy, like the Air Force, is laying the primary stress on quality rather than quantity in obtaining the latest ships for its two operational fleets.

It is not the Government's policy to reduce India's supply relationship with the Soviet Union for the acquisition of defence equipment that cannot be indigenously manufactured at present. But it does not want to be entirely dependent on any one country, no matter how close its relations with it. It is for this reason that the Government has opted for diversification consistent with its political and strategic perceptions.

The Prime Minister said, during her recent visit to London, that self-reliance did not mean isolation from foreign ideas and inventions. It involved both acquisition and adaptation of knowledge from all available sources. And the implication of the redefinition was that it was as relevant in the field of defence preparedness as in industrial development.

SAC: 4220/7131

JAPAN REPORTED TO WELCOME INDIAN POLITICAL STABILITY

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by K.V. Narain]

[Text]

TOKYO, April 5

The visit of the External Affairs Minister, Mr. P. V. Narasimha Rao to Tokyo during the latter part of April for talks with his Japanese counterpart, Mr. Yoshiro Sakurada, is taking place against the background of what the Japanese Government regards as the new political stability being shown by India. This is described as being very important for the stability of the whole region.

While the coming talks have not yet been officially announced here, highly placed Foreign Office sources told this correspondent that, generally speaking, the two Ministers will exchange views on bilateral relations and the international situation and how India and Japan view developments in South and other parts of Asia.

The agenda and the topics to be discussed are still under discussion but the sources said "we don't want to get tied down to any rigid agenda."

Vital region: The Japanese Government regards Indo-Pakistan relations as very important for Japan because "how the relations between the two countries develop will determine the political future of the region" which is directly linked to Japan and its economic well being.

"As a basic trend, Indo-Pakistan relations have recently been showing encouraging signs and, as such, we were not very much disturbed" by the Indian decision to call off its Foreign Secretary's visit to Pakistan, in the wake of the reference to Kashmir at a UN meeting by the Pakistan delegate, these sources said, and added "both the countries want to improve their relations and so the setback is one which should be dealt with by them. We hope that despite the incident at the UN meeting, both countries will resume their talks on a no-war pact."

The Japanese Government has expressed its basic views to both the Indian and Pakistan Governments, most recently during the visits here in February of the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Perachia and the Secretary in the Indian External Affairs Ministry, Mr. Eric Gonsalves.

In the talks "we more or less agreed that there are encouraging developments in the sub-continent and that more regional cooperation in South Asia is a constructive development." The efforts to improve relations between India and China were also taken note of, the sources said.

Indo-China ties: The Foreign Office sources, in addition to welcoming the new political stability in India, noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Government of India to overcome the economic problems facing the country. They welcomed New Delhi's recent efforts to relax trade restrictions as a "good development" and "we would like to see them implemented."

Meanwhile, according to non-governmental sources close to Mr. Sakuruchi, the Foreign Minister is likely to visit India some time next August. The long Diet session will have been over by then and August, being the height of summer in Japan, is generally a slack month with minimum political activities. As such, Mr. Sakuruchi will be relatively free then.

Mr. Sakuruchi is known for his great interest in India. For some years now he has been the honorary president of the Indo-Japanese Association, the influential organisation of the major Japanese trading and industrial houses. Even after he became Foreign Minister, he has not relinquished the presidency, a fact which is taken as reflecting his continued interest in Indian affairs.

CSO: 4220/7131

PRESS REPORTS DETAILS, IMPACT OF IMPORT-EXPORT POLICY

Licensing Made Simpler

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 5.

The import and export policy for 1982-83, provides for a further simplification and liberalisation of import licensing to make raw materials and technology easily available and boost production and also exports.

In a statement in the Lok Sabha, today, the Commerce Minister, Mr. Shivraj Patil, expected the policy to bring about further technological advancement and progress towards self-reliance.

Import licensing has been either dispensed with or streamlined in several areas, and Mr. Patil hoped that this would enable the industrial units, specially the smaller ones, to organise their production programmes better with a steadier flow of inputs. However, wherever necessary, restrictions have been imposed on import of certain items to protect Indian producers.

One of the salient features of the policy is that 100 per cent export oriented units can import all their requirements under the Open General Licence (OGL).

The list of machinery that can be imported under OGL has been enlarged and small scale units can import machinery worth up to Rs. 2 lakhs without the recommendation of the sponsoring authority and without reference to the regional capital goods committee.

Non-resident investors: Non-resident Indians, investing at least 20 per cent in an industry in India for the manufacture of certain electronic items, will be allowed to import the entire machinery under OGL, if the purchases are paid for from their foreign exchange earnings. Doctors and scientists returning to India will be allowed to import professional equipment, of any value, used by them abroad for at least one year. Import of solar energy equipment has been put under OGL.

To assist small-scale and cottage-sector units, some of the items permitted under OGL can be imported by others (besides the actual users), for off-the-shelf supply to the users.

Repeat operation of the existing automatic licences of value not exceeding Rs. 1 lakh, has been allowed. This is expected to benefit half the number of small-scale units and over 25 per cent of the other units. Actual users above this limit will be given fresh automatic licences, based on past consumption, but with an increase of 10 per cent in the value of the licences to provide for higher costs of inputs. This increase will be 20 per cent for units which choose to forgo supplementary licence during the year.

Backward areas: New units in the small scale sector and small units set up in backward areas or those set up by technicians, or persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, ~~Scheduled~~ Tribes or ex-servicemen, will be given initial licence for raw materials of a value substantially higher than before. A number of districts having no large or medium industry, has been included in the list of backward areas for this purpose.

Industrial units exporting 10 per cent or more of their production will be entitled to an increase of 20 per cent of the value of their automatic licence.

Industrial units exporting 25 per cent or more of their products (with a minimum of Rs. 5 lakhs) and units with exports of Rs. 1 crore or above, will have the facility of "repeat operation" of their existing automatic as well as supplementary licences, irrespective of the value. Those units exporting 50 per cent or more of their production will continue to have comparatively higher facility for importing their requirements.

Innovations in Import Policy

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 5.

The import and export policy announced today has many "firsts" to its credit.

For the first time the policy in respect of both import and export have been put together in one volume. Hitherto, there used to be two separate volumes. According to the Commerce Secretary, Mr. Abid Hussain, this is meant to bring about the link between import and export.

Another first is the inclusion of a separate chapter on technology to highlight the emphasis sought to be given for making available technological inputs to increase production, save on energy and raw material consumption and improve the cost efficiency of the products.

The nomenclature of the various categories of imports has been changed. The "banned" list will now be called "limited permissible" list, "absolutely banned" list as "non-permissible" list, "restricted" list as "automatic permissible list".

Repeat licence: Those holding automatic licence have been allowed repeat licence, which means that they can import for the second year without having to go to the CCI and E. This, according to Mr. Hussain, implies that the licence will be valid for more than one year. This provision too has been made for the first time.

Another new feature is the inclusion of "Capital Goods" under the purview of REP licence. Anyone who has REP licence is now free to buy any machinery from abroad so that he can improve the efficiency of production and increase the competitiveness of the product.

Again, for the first time the concept of de-linking OGL from actual user condition, advocated by the Alexander Committee, has been introduced, though on a limited scale. Some of the OGL items allowed for import by actual users, have been allowed to be

imported by others too for sale to the users off-the-shelf.

The extension of the duty exemption scheme to manufacture of intermediate products to be supplied to another advance licence-holder for production of ultimate export product is also claimed to be a new feature. Similarly, it has been decided to exempt, from payment of customs duty, the import of raw materials and components required for manufacture of goods to be supplied against IDA/IBRD aided projects in India. In other words, the customs duty exemption will be available for the first time in respect of imports made for "deemed exports".

The Commerce Secretary said that the import policy had so far been used as a catalyst to protect indigenous industry and prevent undue competition from outside. The objective of the new import policy was to use it to see that our industry became efficient and cost-effective. With this aim, the import licensing had been liberalised and simplified. Under the new policy, he claimed, an industrialist need not have to shuttle between his factory and Delhi every now and then to get import licence.

Even in respect of "canalised" items, a new element had been introduced to see that the canalising agency fulfilled its obligations without delay. If the canalising agency failed to deliver the committed goods within 90 days, the consumer could approach the CCI and E for importing the item under OGL, even though it was in the "canalised list."

Replying to a question, Mr. Hussain said that as a result of liberalisation, OGL imports might rise from the estimated Rs. 300 crores in 1981-82 to about Rs. 500 crores in 1982-83. The policy was based on the premise that the Indian product could become competitive in the world only if its quality was improved. For the import of certain balancing equipment would have to be allowed.

Further Details Given

Madras THE HINDU in English 6 Apr 82 p 9

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 5.

The value of REP (replenishment) licences held by manufacturer-exporters will be increased to help them import their full requirements under one licence. The increase will be worth 10 per cent of their exports, according to the import-export policy for 1982-83 announced by the Commerce Minister, Mr. Shivraj Patil, in the Lok Sabha today.

The scheme for issuing advance licences with the benefit of customs duty exemption, has been extended to cover practically all items required for export production. As a measure of simplification, powers have been delegated to the regional licensing offices, to issue advance licences on the basis of approved input-output norms.

The duty exemption scheme has been extended also to manufacturers of intermediate products supplied to the makers of the end-product for export, and will cover supplies made to the export units in free trade zones.

The scheme allowing duty-free imports against REP licences has also been substantially enlarged. A number of new export products, which are predominantly made in the small scale and cottage sector units, have been included.

Facilities have been given to trading houses and export houses to enable them to provide more assistance to their supporting manufacturers. These houses will be allowed to import machinery for setting up common servicing centres.

Export houses having a turn-over of Rs. 5 crores or more a year have been given certain additional facilities, to enable them to improve their performance.

Manufacturer-exporters exporting 10 per cent or more of their products, subject to a minimum of Rs. 5 lakhs, or those exporting products worth a minimum of Rs. 1 crore annually, will have the facility of utilising their REP licences for importing machinery worth up to Rs. 20 lakhs a year, without the recommendation of sponsoring authority, and without indigenous clearance. Banned items will not, however, be allowed under this facility.

Import of samples: The policy for import of samples and prototypes has been further liberalised by raising the value limits.

Industries exporting 25 per cent or more of their products, in the previous three years, with a minimum of Rs. 5 lakhs, will be eligible for import of know-how, designs and consultancy services, up to Rs. 1 crore in value. In the case of units exporting 50 per cent or more of their products, there will be no upper value limit for such imports.

The canalised list will now include caprolactum, frit buttons (for the manufacture of optical glasses) and Vitamin A.

Import of essential items, like drugs, life-saving equipment, certain types of aids and appliances for handicapped and disabled persons, dental items, X-ray films and medical books and teaching aids, will continue to be liberal.

Laboratories have also been allowed to import equipment, instruments and chemicals under Open General Licence up to a specified value limit.

Export policy: The policy for export of certain items, which are now under regulations has been liberalised. These items include, gum, rosin, cotton yarn above 60 counts, Red Sanders wood and nylon staple fibre. The minimum export price on footwear, except for closed leather shoes, has been abolished.

In view of domestic requirements, export of certain items will not be allowed. These include mustard seed, rape seed, mustard oil, rape seed oil, sesame seed oil, paraffin wax and sugarcane.

List of items: The following are the items which have been taken out of the OGL list and shifted to Appendix five, containing the list of automatic permissible items: Industrial X-Ray films, graphic art films, Tamethasone and its salts, ball pen inks, lead alloys, aluminum extrusions, aluminum rolled products, sheets, strips, slugs, methocarbamol, 16-DPA, pregnenolone, progesterone, testosterone, testosterone propionate, methyl testosterone, ethisterone, DHA acetate and roste oleate, androsterenedione, estrone, oestradiol, estradiol benzoate, ethynodiol 3,4-diaminobenzophenone.

Caprolactum has been taken out of the OGL list and shifted to Appendix eight, which contains the list of canalised items.

The following items have been taken out of the OGL list and added to Appendix 7 (automatic permissible items formerly known as 'restricted'): tin free steel sheets/strips coils.

The following are among the items shifted from restricted to OGL: Calcium silicide, -adine, components of relays, connectors and switches, telephone dials, copper beryllium strips, tungsten disc/tungsten contacts, polypropylene films, video cassette without tape and parts thereof, germanium oil, DC isolators/single/double pole, diffused wafer chips for semi-conductor industries including ICs, dry reed switches, ferrites (including UU 39 and UU 47 cores), microwave components of all types, pulse transformers, PCB mountable, selenium rectifiers/plates stacks, sockets for integrated circuits, silver powder suspension, strips wound synchronising transformers, tape wound ferrodes and cores for pulse synchronising transformers, transistor headers, carbon contacts for potentiometers and high speed steel rounds/wires in cobalt grades from 3.5 mm dia to 6 mm and above 40 mm dia.

Shifted from banned list: The following items have been shifted from banned list to OGL: Emery grains, ivory unmanufactured, mica powder, nitric acid, zinc dust/granulations, rare earth oxide, lead powder, carbon rods for carbon resistors, pressed/

punched metal parts for tape deck mechanism/ thyristor (silicon control rectifiers — converter/inverter grade), 1 amp and above and up to 1,000 amp, electronic TV tuners, cork powder of 200 mesh, soda lime glass tubes for fluorescent lamps, wooden battery separators, cast coil rectifiers, excitation transformers.

The following items have been shifted from a (repeat) transformers, high speed steel wires (non-cobalt grade) from 3.5 mm to 6 mm dia, high speed steel rounds (non-cobalt grade) from 3.5 mm to 6 mm dia, high speed steel (repeating), transformers, high speed steel wire rods (non-cobalt grade) below 6 mm and above 41 mm dia, high speed steel wires (non-cobalt grade) from 3.5 mm to 6 mm dia, high speed steel rounds (non-cobalt grade) from 3.5 mm to 6 mm dia and above 40 mm dia.

The following have been shifted from canalised list to OGL, DMT and mercury.

The following have been transferred from the restricted list to banned list (limited permissible): (i) Carbon blocks, hard carbons and resin bonded carbons, glykol 40 per cent, diosgenin, alternators up to 1,000 kVA, contactors of all ratings, glassmet terminals for compressors up to 0.5 hp, fluid couplings.

acrylic plastic scrap, bimetal/trimetal/multi-metal bearings, citronella oil, tetramisole hydro-chloride, actuators, rubber hoses.

The following have been shifted from restricted to canalised list: Flint buttons (certain types) 97, vitamin A, acetyl salicylic acid.

The following have been shifted from banned to restricted list (automatic permissible list): Matrix board, stereo floss, acetic acid, acetic anhydride, bisphenol-A, channel black and lamp black, granulated cork, pentaerythritol (other than nitration grade), synthetic organic tanning agents, precipitated/colloidal silica, polypropylene fibre/tow, formed aluminium foils for electrolytic capacitors, decorative paper.

The following have been shifted from banned to absolutely banned (non-permissible items): Hydrazine hydrate sulphate, oxytetracycline, fabrics made from man-made fibres/yarns, analgin, ammonium sulphonate, endrin (technical) ABS moulding powder, resorcinol, woolen yarn, wool waste, synthetic tow/spun yarn waste, excluding nylon waste, wool, knitting, fasteners — snap and zip, vanillin/ethyl vanillin, self-adhesive tapes, trimmings and embellishments for garments, made-ups, knit-wear, plastic/leather goods.

More on Imports

Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Apr 82 p 6

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 6.

The import and export policy for 1982-83 announced yesterday by the Union Commerce Minister, has introduced for the first time the concept of de-linking OGL from the actual user condition.

Some of the OGL items, allowed for import by the actual users, have been allowed to be imported by others too for sale to the users off-the-shelf.

The following are some of the 61 items included in Appendix 10 containing the list of items allowed to be imported under OGL by all persons:

Instruments and equipment required by the blind, including Braille typewriters; wattle bark for tanning leather; wattle extract; pickled hides, skins, pelts, splits and parts thereof; hides and skins, raw or salted where the value of hides and skins is more than that of wool/hair thereon; quebracho extract; chestnut extract and modified eucalyptus extract (Myrran).

Family welfare equipment/instruments, appliances, namely: (i) (a) laparoscope, (b) culdoscope, (c) hysteroscope, (d) vacuum suction apparatus, (e) their accessories and spares, (ii) rubber contraceptive devices (diaphragms only); (iii) intrauterine contraceptive devices (other than the Lippes' loop and CU-T200) coloured condoms, diaphragms, jelly and foam tablets, as approved by the Drugs Controller (India), New Delhi.

Homeopathic medicines in finished form or homeopathic drugs (single) in basic form and/or of any potency, including "sugar of milk" in bulk and biochemical medicines, pulses, spices (1) cinnamon/cassia, (2) nutmeg/mace, (3) cloves; dates (wet or dry) imported by Indian sailing vessels, rock salt.

(i) X-ray films (medical) including the following: (1) cine angiographic films, (2) copying films (for copying X-ray radiograph), (3) dental X-ray film, (4) films for use without screens, (5) low-dose mammographic films, (6) mass miniature film, (7) 35 mm negative and reversal types for duplicating films, (8) personal monitoring films, (9) special types of X-ray films used for changers.

(ii) aerographic films, (iii) photo-type-setting R.C./stabilisation paper, (iv) thermographic polyimid raising and embossing powder for printing industry, (v) microfilm films, (vi) infra red and ultraviolet films, (vii) kidney surgery films.

Rudraksha beads; lubricating oils for watches, clocks and time pieces and house service meters; gum arabic; viscose filament yarn upto 600 denier; cuprammonium filament yarn; non-fictional educational and instructional films certified by the Board of Film Censors to be "predominantly educational".

Scales, except those included in the Appendices 3, 4, 5, 15 and 30, of (1) printing machinery, (2) machine tools for cutting, forming,

abrading and polishing metals, wood, glass and plastics including any standard or ancillary equipment. (3) cinematographic equipment, solar energy equipment.

Photographic film (colour); photographic films (black and white) other than 120 size rolls; photographic colour paper; cinematographic films not exposed including the following: (i) 8 mm (colour) and (ii) 8 mm (black and white-negative); records for learning of languages; and billiard cloth, rubber cushions for billiard tables, billiard/snooker balls and billiard chalks.

In addition to the above, 45 life saving equipment, 75 finished drugs preparations, 88 crude drugs, 136 dental equipment and certain specified scientific and technical books have been listed which can be imported under OGL by all persons.

Appendix 10 also contains a number of items which can be imported under OGL by actual users and certain specified organisations. These include poultry vaccines by approved poultry farms and hatcheries; rare earth oxides by actual users; drugs and medicines by hospitals, medical institutions, registered medical practitioners and individuals for their own use up to Rs. 1,000 at any time; X-ray intensifying screens by hospitals and radiological clinics; scientific and measuring instruments and chemicals by professionals in the fields of science, technology, engineering and medicine for their own purpose; spare parts of motor vehicles and agricultural tractors by persons owning imported vehicle or agricultural tractor and video cassette without tape and parts thereof by actual users.

Capital goods for printing industry

The following capital goods of relevance to the printing industry are included in Appendix 2, which comprises the list of capital goods that can be imported under OGL by eligible actual users.

(1) Web fed high speed letter press, rotary and offset rotary printing machines having output of 30,000 or more impressions per hour, i.e. cylinder speed of 30,000 per hour.

(2) Photo composing/type setting machines and ancillaries, key boards, editing terminals and film/paper processors.

(3) Electronic colour scanners including vanochromograph.

(4) High precision auto focus, auto exposure, computerised process cameras and process enlargers.

(5) Graphic film/plate/paper processors.

(6) Step and repeat machines/cameras.

(7) Reflection/transmission type densitometers.

(8) Flatbed proof presses other than rotary sheet fed offset.

(9) Mechanical hot metal line casting/composing machine with built-in or separate key boards.

(10) Book binding machinery for hard cover and paper back binding including automatic folding machines, collating machines, adhesive binding machines, saddle stitching machines, book sewing machines, case making machinery, embossing machines.

(11) Fully programmed paper cutting machine and three knife trimmers.

(12) Automatic punching machine with sheet feeder (output 3000 sheets an hour and more).

(13) Ticket and label printing machines, other than offset with built-in attachment for numbering and perforating.

(14) Hydraulic embossing machines.

(15) Embossing plates and engraved rollers.

(16) Stamping machines.

(17) Light sources for cameras and plate making such as xenon, metal halide, mercury halide etc., but excluding arc lamps.

(18) Four colour/two colour offset machines.

(19) Word processor.

(20) Anti set-off devices.

(21) Registration for off-set printing machine.

PRESS PANEL STAND ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION TOLD

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Apr 82 pp 1, 5

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 5 (LNI).

THE press commission headed by Mr. Justice K. K. Mathew has proposed modifications in the Official Secrets Act so that the citizens would have the right to know the affairs of the state.

It has suggested that the amending piece of legislation could be modelled on the British freedom of information bill. It should reconcile the right of the people to know, on the one hand, and, on the other, protect the need of national security and other vital interests of the state.

An authority like the parliamentary commissioner in the U.K. should be named to consider complaints about rejection of an application for access to information.

Former Union minister Mr. K. R. Ganesh, has, however, not concurred with this recommendation. He thinks that the right to information could not be conferred on the citizens in view of the internal and external threats to the country's stability and security.

In contrast to its suggestion on the right to information about the affairs of the state, the press commission feels that invasions of privacy of the citizen should be guarded against. It has proposed the re-introduction of the Indian Penal Code amendment bill of 1978 which lapsed with the dissolution of the Lok Sabha.

The commission says that the Press Council Act should be amended so that newspapers would show "respect for privacy" while publishing reports. At present, the prohibition on news reports offending "public taste"

It feels that sensitive private facts relating to the health, private behaviour, home life or personal or family relationships should not be published, except where it is in the public interest to do so, if it would cause distress, annoyance or embarrassment to the persons concerned.

To determine what is in public interest, the exceptions listed in section concerning defamation should form the guidelines. Reports touching on the privacy of a citizen could be permitted against a public servant insofar as they pertained to his precise functions.

On the journalist's right not to disclose his source, the commission is of the view that there could be "no absolute immunity." However, five members have disagreed with this view. They have said that journalists should be compelled to disclose their sources only in extreme cases and, that too, in confidence to a judge or a judicial officer.

Referring to the law of defamation, the commission says the present statute should be liberalised and that the provisions in section 4 of the British information bill should be introduced in India.

The section in the U.K. law provides that no defamation case would lie if a publisher establishes that he unintentionally published words complained of and offered to publish a suitable correction and apology. It has commended the suggestions made by the law commission in its 42nd report.

On contempt of court, the commission feels that the summary procedure contemplated in section 2 of the Contempt of Courts Act of 1971 should be restricted to such cases where it is justified on the ground

of urgency and there is risk of prejudice to the proceedings. It has also said that a report should attract contempt only if it constituted a substantial interference with the judicial proceedings.

In its voluminous report, the commission has covered a wide range of issues affecting the press such as freedom of the press and its accountability to the public, delinking and diffusion, pre-censorship, including by the application of the Telegraphs Act, price-page schedule and fixation of ratio of news and advertisements.

The commission is of the view that there is no need for separate provision in the constitution to guarantee the freedom of the press. This is already covered by Article 19 (1) (A). But all Indian companies engaged in the business of communication should be deemed to be citizens within the meaning of the article.

The commission says laws regulating the functioning of the newspaper industry would not be repugnant to Article 19 (1) (A). There is nothing in article 13 (2) to forbid any regulatory laws.

OWNERSHIP ISSUE

In modern conditions, the commission feels the press has also to function as a public utility. The exercise of ownership rights, whatever be the pattern, should be subject to some measure of restraint and regulation.

Legislation should be undertaken to provide that those who owned newspapers should not have any other business interests. The commission says a major portion of all important dailies is controlled by persons having strong links with other businesses or industries. This phenomenon came in the way of providing free information and healthy functioning of the industry.

ISD: 4220/7129

FINANCE MINISTER NOTES TIES WITH ARAB WORLD

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Apr 82 p 4

[Text]

BOMBAY, April 5: India's solid support to Arab world was reiterated here yesterday by Mr. Pranab Mukherjee, Union finance minister. He hoped that the bond of friendship between them would be closer in the years to come.

Mr. Mukherjee, who was addressing a meeting of the Indo-Arab Society, pointed out that today it was necessary to re-examine the relations between India and the Arab world and putting them in the right perspective. India's policy of non-alignment and peaceful co-existence not only stabilised the forces of peace but also helped ease the cold war, he added.

Arab countries want greater Indian participation not because India was superior, but because such participation was to promote long-term relations. Mr. Mukherjee stressed that problems of the world could be solved through co-operation and not by dividing the world into power blocs. India had tried to pass on technology and trained people there and share benefits mutually.

The finance minister added that investment opportunities for Arab countries in India were immense. "If we want 80's a real, productivity decade, Arab world has an important role to play," he reiterated.

Dr. (Mrs) Najma Heptulla welcomed the minister and Dr. Rafiq Zakaria, president, Indo-Arab Society, proposed a vote of thanks.

CSO: 4220/7129

FOREIGN MISSIONS' PROPAGANDA ACTIVITIES NOTED

Madras THE HINDU in English 5 Apr 82 p 9

[Article by G.K. Reddy]

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 4.

Once again the External Affairs Ministry is faced with the ticklish problem of regulating the publicity activities of various diplomatic missions which often border on blatant propaganda against third countries with which India has friendly relations.

Though numerous circulars have been issued from time to time directing these foreign missions to desist from such propaganda activities, they continue to indulge in dissemination of different forms of political, ideological, religious and cultural information that is aimed at influencing the attitudes of people rather than enlightening them.

U.S., Russia have free run: The two super powers with their vast publicity outfits are able to engage in a wide range of activities making it difficult for the host country to differentiate between political propaganda and cultural promotion. But in attempting to maintain some degree of even handedness in dealing with both of them, the Government had to face the criticism that it tended to give the benefit of doubt to the Soviet Union over its many transgressions, while missing no opportunity to admonish the U.S. for similar infractions.

Apart from the information department of the Soviet Embassy, the Indo-Soviet Friendship Society (ISCUS) has been functioning until recently as a quasi-Governmental organisation with semi-official status in celebrating political events as well as cultural functions. The wings of the ISCUS were clipped recently when the Prime Minister, Mrs. Indira Gandhi, permitted her party colleagues to form a parallel friendship society more as an expression of her displeasure with the Indian communists than disapproval of the propaganda activities of the Soviet Union.

In the case of the U.S. the Indian attitude has been largely conditioned by the love-hate relationship with Washington. There are occasions when a blind eye is turned to American propaganda blasts against the Soviet Union, but at times umbrage is taken at such activities as was done when the USICA tried to screen the TV feature "Let Poland be Poland" to an invited audience.

Otherwise the two super powers have a relatively free run in India with their propaganda operations. The occasional admonitions by the Government hardly impede their freedom of activity to denounce each other under the guise of propagating their causes or publicising their action. The only time when the Government of India came down rather heavily on the U.S. was in the early 1970s when in the wake of the controversy sparked by the collapse of the Soviet cultural centre under construction in Trivandrum, the U.S. was obliged to close down its libraries in non-consular towns when it refused to place them under Indian supervision.

The other big powers like Britain, France, West Germany and Japan have had no difficulty in complying with the new regulations. The British Council, Alliance Francaise, Max Mueller Bhavan and Japan Information Centre have been functioning without any restriction either as branches of their diplomatic missions or as semi-independent cultural outfits with token Indian supervision.

Limited publicity activities by Pak, China: The Chinese and Pakistani embassies have by and large been quite correct by confining their publicity activities to the projection of their viewpoints on bilateral issues without

attacking third countries or casting aspersions on India's policies that do not directly concern them. As these two countries maintain only modest information departments, they have relatively less opportunities to indulge in any sustained propaganda from Indian soil on international developments, other than releasing the texts of statements made by their leaders on various issues.

Smaller nations embassies Govt: It is the smaller countries that have lately been taking undue liberties and creating embarrassment for the Government. Apart from the Iraqis and Iranians who have been fighting their war in Delhi, the affluent Arab missions have been indulging in activities that are not always in consonance with their obligations under the Vienna convention. The Government has had occasion to privately draw their attention to and even disapprove of some of these actions.

A country that has been coming in for adverse notice rather frequently is North Korea with its full page advertisements like the Taiwan lobby in Delhi which was able to mobilise last year the signatures of over 200 MPs, including many belonging to the Congress

(i). for sending a message of greetings to its President in the midst of the delicate Sino-Indian negotiations. North Korea is now organising in Delhi, for the second time, a seminar to propagate the idea of self-reliance under a semi-international auspices. A number of Indian MPs are associated actively with this seminar with unconcealed political overtones.

No impact on Indian opinion: However, a reassuring feature of all these propaganda activities by the foreign missions in Delhi is that they make little or no impact in influencing Indian opinion. The majority of people who participate in them do so as a diversion from their humdrum routine and not because of any great faith in the causes propagated by them. It is, strangely enough, the politically conscious or free-wheeling politicians of various ideological hues who get drawn into these activities by identifying themselves with controversial causes for whatever reason.

And it is this aspect that continues to worry the Government, causing grave embarrassment at times as it happened in the case of the signature collection to greet the President of Taiwan in the midst of the Sino-Indian moves for normalisation.

CSO: 4220/7127

POWER SECTOR EXCEEDS OUTPUT TARGET FOR 1981-82

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 5 Apr 82 p 13

[Text] New Delhi, April 4--For the first time in many years, the power sector has exceeded the generation target fixed for the year. In 1981-82 the target of 122 billion units was exceeded by nearly one billion units.

In 1981-82, power amounting to 122.9 billion units was produced against 111.5 billion produced in 1980-81, making an increase of 11.4 billion during the year. This constitutes a growth of 10.1 percent.

According to official sources, significant increases in power output were recorded in all the regions. The northern region recorded an increase of 9.2 percent, the western region seven percent, the southern region 12 percent, the eastern region 14.8 percent and the northeastern region 30.1 percent.

Thermal output registered a growth of 13.4 percent over the previous year. The capacity utilisation of thermal plants increased to 47 percent against 45 in the previous year.

Hydel generation during the year went up by 6.5 percent. Consequent on the significant increase, power supply for the steel industry went up by 30 percent and coal industry by 20 percent in 1981-82 over the previous year. Improved availability of power for these core sectors facilitated an increase of nine percent in coal output and 18.6 percent in the production of saleable steel.

The agriculture sector was another beneficiary of increased power output. Subsequent to early withdrawal of the southwest monsoon, instructions were issued by the ministry of energy for adequate power supply to the farmers. This has resulted in better kharif production during the year.

DVC's Record

In the southern region, Kerala and Andhra Pradesh have been surplus in power and assisting Karnataka which has been experiencing shortage after January. Tamil Nadu is, by and large, able to meet its energy needs.

In the western region, Gujarat has been meeting its energy requirements fully and in Maharashtra, the shortage is only marginal.

In the eastern region there has been a substantial improvement in the power situation as a result of the remarkable performance of DVC during the year. DVC recorded an increase of 40 percent in power output over the previous year and the plant load factor of thermal stations during 1981-82 was over 50 percent against 37.6 percent in the previous year. DVC has been able to meet its contractual obligations to all core sectors of the economy like steel, coal and railways.

In the northeastern region, the requirements of the various sectors have been met by and large.

Himachal Pradesh has continued to be an energy surplus state and the power position in Delhi has been very comfortable during the year. The central sector Badarpur thermal power station has been rendering substantial assistance to Rajasthan to tide over the power problem in the state. Punjab and Haryana have imposed only peak period restrictions. U.P. has been able to relax power cuts on industries and is rendering assistance occasionally to neighbouring states like Rajasthan and Bihar.

CSO: 4220/7125

STATE TRADING CORPORATION REPORTS RISE IN EXPORTS

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 1.

The State Trading Corporation has recorded a 14 per cent increase in exports in 1981-82 though its total turnover has declined marginally by Rs. 16 crores.

Announcing the provisional results of the working of STC for the year ended on March 31, its part-time Chairman and Commerce Secretary Mr. Abid Hussain, told pressmen that the lower turnover was due to decline in imports which, in turn, was accounted for by lower imports of edible oils.

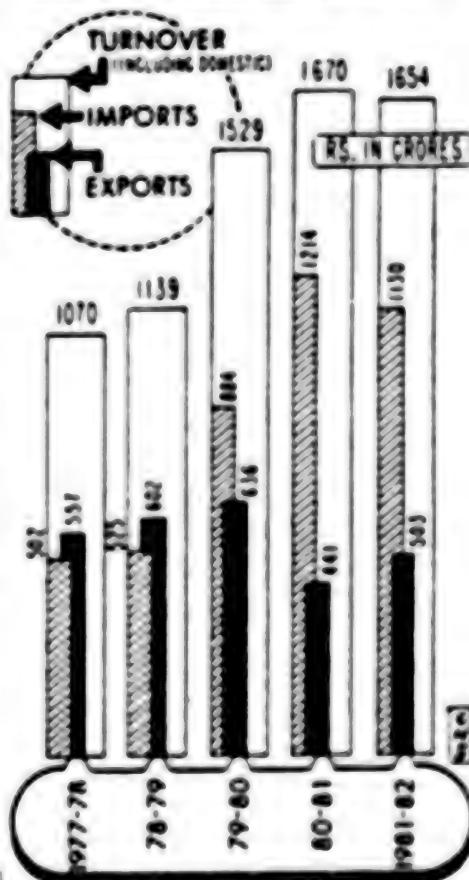
The fall in imports was a step in the right direction as it implied containment of expenditure of foreign exchange, Mr. Hussain said. Imports had declined from the record level of Rs. 1,214 crores in 1980-81 to Rs. 1,130 crores in 1981-82. Edible oil import had declined by Rs. 53 crores due to improved indigenous availability following a good groundnut crop.

For the group as a whole, imports had declined from Rs. 1,332 crores to Rs. 1,250 crores. But, turnover of the group had increased from Rs. 1,875.6 crores to Rs. 1,913 crores. This was due to increase in exports of the group from Rs. 521.5 crores to Rs. 634.7 crores and increase in domestic sales from Rs. 22 crores to Rs. 29 crores.

Non-canalised Items: Among the substances, the Chemicals and Pharmaceuticals Corporation recorded a 47 per cent increase in export of non-canalised items and a 10 per cent rise in canalised items. Export of CPC increased from Rs. 95 crores to Rs. 14 crores, which is a record. New products exported included krescete to Sri Lanka, streptomycin formulations to the USSR, anti-snake venom to Bangladesh and Aden. Imports by CPC declined from Rs. 19 crores to Rs. 9 crores.

The Handlooms and Handicrafts Export

FIVE YEARS OF STC



Corporation recorded a steep rise in exports from Rs. 26.5 crores to Rs. 61.7 crores. This increase achieved despite a fall in exports

of carpets and handicrafts was due to a sharp rise in exports of gold jewellery from Rs 4 crores to Rs 40 crores and of handlooms from Rs 48 crores to Rs 65 crores.

The performance of the Project Exports Corporation showed a 27 per cent increase in exports from Rs 384 crores to Rs 489 crores. Export of non-canalised items rose by 146 per cent. Import sales suffered a fall due to decontrolisation of graphite electrodes and anodes.

EEC curse: Mr. Hussain admitted that though exports had been higher by 14 per cent compared to 1980-81, it was lower than the targeted level. He attributed this to decline in export of groundnut extraction to EEC countries and the Government policy against export of sugar and molasses in 1981-82. The EEC had put restrictions and the U.K. had imposed a ban on import of groundnut extraction on the ground of higher aflatoxin content. In regard to molasses, the Commerce Ministry wanted exports to be allowed, he said.

A project for setting up a fashion glove factory with Bulgarian collaboration has been finalised. Another project for setting up a "shoe upper" factory was in an advanced stage of finalisation. The National Tannery in Calcutta which was virtually closed has been revived and has started working. A leather garment unit at Madras was coming up. Among the new proposals taken up was the one for setting up a fruit juice unit at Hyderabad for export. Mr. Hussain said.

CSO: 4220/7119

INFORMAL CONTROL OF STEEL PRICES WITHDRAWN

Madras THE HINDU in English 2 Apr 82 p 1

[Text]

NEW DELHI, April 1.

The informal control on the prices of steel was withdrawn today, and the industry left free to sell all its products at prices the market could bear.

As a result, it is expected that the prices of pig iron and at least one major category of steel — hot rolled coils — would rise but the prices would fall in the case of wire rods, rounds, blooms and billets. The prices of cold rolled coils and sheets might not change.

The Minister of Industry, Steel and Mines, Mr. N. D. Tiwari, announcing in the Lok Sabha the end of the regime of administered prices, said the prices of pig iron and all categories of steel would hereafter be determined by the Joint Plant Committee. It would no longer be necessary for the committee or the producers to obtain Government approval for the price of any product.

Prices to be monitored

Mr. Tiwari assured the House that the Government would keep an eye on the prices fixed by the Committee. The Iron and Steel Controller, as chairman of the Committee, would monitor the pricing structure.

Official sources also tried to dispel the fear that the new decision would lead to any spurt in prices.

"The prices," Mr. Tiwari said, "will be determined having regard to the interests of the economy. Easy availability of iron and steel items will be maintained and any price increases kept within reasonable limits."

Mr. Tiwari maintained that the step "will bring about realism in the pricing of iron and steel items, mop up the market premia, which is a feature of an administered pricing regime, and generate internal resources for the industry. The Government wanted the industry to become progressively independent of budgetary support. Whatever additional resources become available will be channeled

into the Steel Development Fund and used for the modernisation and expansion of the industry." Constituted in 1978, the fund is the principal financing agency for modernising the industry.

There has been no statutory control on steel prices from the 1960s but the Government has regulated the prices of products of the integrated steel plants informally.

A part of this informal control was relaxed in February 1981 at the instance of the main producers who felt that middlemen were taking advantage of the shortage of some items.

The items on which the Government relaxed control last year, leaving the main producers free to fix prices were bars, rods and semi-s.

But the industry was still required to obtain Government approval of the prices of pig iron, and several categories of steel like coils, sheets, plates, structural, railway materials, etc.

It was claimed that following the relaxation of the informal control on the prices of bars, rods and semi-s, their prices corresponded to open market prices and had remained fairly stable during the past year.

But in many cases the administered prices were found to be lower than the ruling market prices. This generated black money.

Steel shares fancied

BOMBAY, April 1. A virtual decontrol of prices of steel products caused an immediate spurt in steel shares in kerb dealings here today.

Tata Steel ordinary jumped by Rs. 25 to around Rs. 375 according to a leading broker.

The announcement regarding the discontinuation of administered prices made by the Steel and Mines Minister in the Lok Sabha today was generally welcomed by the steel industry, and regarded as a step to boost production — PTI.

(S.O. 4220/7119)

BRIEFS

MACHINERY FOR USSR--Bombay, April 5--The Soviet Union is planning to place orders for about 120,000 tonnes of equipment by 1985 with plants built in India with Soviet participation, according to "Tass." The equipment will be delivered to those projects in Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and in the developing nations being constructed with Soviet assistance. About 400 industrial enterprises have been or are being built in India with aid from the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA). The CMEA countries help India develop its heavy industry, Indian enterprises, built with Soviet assistance, produced in 1980 about 90 percent of the products for India's heavy machine-building industry and nearly 80 percent of its oil. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 6 Apr 82 p 10]

INDO-ITALIAN JOINT VENTURE--New Delhi, April 2--An Italian company is to set up a joint venture in India for the manufacture of solar photo-voltaic systems which can be used to generate electricity and power irrigation pumpsets in rural areas. A memorandum of understanding to this effect was signed here by the Italian firm, Pragma, and Duncan Brothers of India. About 75 percent of shares of Pragma are held by the State-owned ENI group of Italy. Pragma Managing Director G. Simoni told PTI before he left for Rome today that his company would assist in market analysis, feasibility studies and training. The joint venture, expected to come up in the next two to three years, will design, assemble and market solar photo-voltaic systems.--PTI [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 3 Apr 82 p 7]

CSO: 4220/7120

'SHOORA MEANT TO WORK AS LEGISLATURE'--ZIA

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 pp 1, 14

[Text]

LAHORE, April 19: President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq said here on Monday, Majlis-i-Shoora would continue to function as a legislative assembly until Parliament came into being through an accepted procedure.

The President, who arrived here on a two-day visit, was talking to newsmen at the airport. His attention was drawn to the fact that the Majlis-i-Shoora was functioning as an elected assembly for all practical purposes and was engaged in legislative business.

The President said that was what exactly the shoora was expected to do. "Our aim", he said, was that 300 members should get together and advise the Government how best the country should be run. The difference between the Majlis and Parliament was that while "the Majlis has been constituted by me, the Assembly would be constituted through another process".

Asked if the report of the Council of Islamic Ideology on the proposed Islamic political system would come up for consideration in the budget session of the shoora, he said he could say nothing with certainty at this stage. He said he had received a document from the CII but had not yet studied it in detail.

Asked if the Federal Budget would be approved by the Assem-

lis, he said he would talk about it later, but the Budget would be presented to the nation and would come up for discussion in the shoora.

GOVERNORS

When a correspondent wanted to know if there was some truth in the reports that some changes were in the owing in the provincial administration — implying gubernatorial changes — the President said with a smile: "We belong to those who stand for status quo."

Asked as to why the Government had not started negotiations with the teachers who had been boycotting classes for over a month and that college and university teachers had also come out with their demands, the President said the Government was appreciative of the problems of the teachers. According to him, the Government had been in touch with the teachers and was examining their problems. He, however, noted that the matter lay in provincial jurisdiction and could not be resolved piecemeal.

Answering a question, the President expressed the hope and confidence that something positive would emerge on the Afghan situation from the recent visit of the Representative of the UN Secretary-General to Islamabad, Teheran and Kabul. He noted that Pakistan could not talk to the Karmal regime directly since it had not recognised the present Kabul Government.

Agency reports add.
President Zia said the special

envoy of UN Secretary-General was visiting Pakistan, Afghanistan and Iran to bring about a peaceful political settlement of the Afghanistan problem. There were the three parties involved in the Afghanistan issue. Unless all the three parties participate in peace negotiations, a settlement cannot be arrived at. Therefore, he said, they must discuss the problem under the auspices of the United Nations.

The President said that the Ummah Peace Committee would be able to find solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict.

He said the Committee had already toured Iran and Iraq to open avenues for peaceful settlement of the dispute and now Mr Ahmed Sekou Toure, chief of the committee, was visiting the two countries and hoped that some way would come out to end the war.

Asked whether Majlis-i-Shoora would be dissolved after a new elected Parliament came into being, the President remarked: "We have a long way to go."

The President said he had not received anything about the discussions held between Indian Premier Indira Gandhi and Saudi officials during her current visit. He, however, told a questioner that "we must take a positive view of the visit."

Answering question on the allegation that Pakistan was violating the Indian air space, President Zia said there was a very minor incident and it would not affect the friendly relations of the two countries.

"These technical violations are only accidental and should not be taken seriously", he added.

ZIA ON PRIORITY TO INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 pp 1, 14

[Text]

LAHORE April 19: The President, Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq, today said the Government would undertake an exercise before the next Federal Budget for the removal of impediments in the way of industrial investment.

The President was addressing the members of the Executive Committee of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry here tonight.

The President, who had a free and frank discussion with the chamber members for nearly two hours, assured the industrialists of maximum Government help in the setting up of new industries and for increasing production.

The President said national economy had made tremendous strides during the last four years, but still many problems remained to be tackled, which could be done only with the active co-operation of the industrialists and the trading community.

The President said the basic objective of the Government's industrial policy was not to allow the private sector to suffer, because it was his belief that the Government and the industrialists together would take the country forward by strengthening the national economy.

The President said his feeling was that the industrialists in Pakistan were as vibrant, aggressive and patriotic as in any

other country. However since Pakistan was a developing country, the industrialists here looked for larger profits, and the general concept of profitability in Pakistan was in quick returns. On the other hand the Government had also to collect its share out of the savings of the people by organising investment schemes like the "Khas" deposits and through taxes. But this contradiction could be resolved if it was considered that the Government was not in competition but in consonance with the private sector.

He said it was because of the efforts of the private sector that the present Government had been able to inject vitality in the national economy.

The President said the political environment in the country was still not conducive for a whole-hearted investment. However, the private sector could take it from him that their investments were as safe as in any stable country. He was sure that the private entrepreneur would be able to draw on their returns in a respectable manner.

The President said the Government would give maximum support to anyone wanting to put up an industry, with or without the Government participation or as a joint venture with foreign investment. He said the carpet and garments manufacturing industries had made good progress.

The President said the Government had followed a policy of collecting taxes wherever they

were due, although in some cases tax collection might have become harsh.

The President urged the industrialists to strengthen their institutions like the Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The President said the Government would look into the possibilities of increasing the facilities being provided by banks at the provincial headquarters.

The Government, the President said, was trying to curtail its expenditure to overcome the trade gap. It was wrong, he said, that the Government was allowing import of luxury items.—APP.

PPI adds: The President said the present martial law would continue for "reasonably good time" and the elections would be held when the country achieved political, economic and social stability and the country's trade and industry really flourished.

The President said the announcement of elections would be made when the business community felt that their investments were secure without the assistance of martial law.

President Zia, said the present regime would remain in power till the obligations of the Head of a State, role of political parties and other functionaries were not decided once for all.

He reiterated that power would be transferred to the elected representatives of the people in complete Islamic fashion.

AZAD KASHMIR SHOORA BY MONTH'S END

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 p 4

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 19: A 60-member Majlis-Shoora will be set up in Azad Jammu and Kashmir by the end of next month, Brig Monamned Hayat Khan, President of AJK disclosed here on Sunday.

Talking to newsmen after performing the foundation laying ceremony of the Central Store building of Azad Jammu and Kashmir Health department here he said only God-fearing and true Muslims who possess a good reputation and support the annexation of Azad Jammu and Kashmir with Pakistan will be chosen in the proposed Majlis as members.

Brig. Hayat Khan said, during the next Second Five-year Plan the AJK Government intends to provide more facilities of health care, education and communications to the rural masses. It may be added that the Second Five-Year Plan will commence from July, 1983.

Explaining the salient aspects of the development plans, to be carried out during the next two years, the AJK President said that electrification would be completed during this period.

He said, that in the next Five-Year Plan, health care would be provided to almost 60 per cent of the entire population in the

state. The construction of a Central Health Store building here is also a part of the same effort.

Talking about the educational facilities in the state, Brig. Hayat Khan said, six new polytechnic institutes would be set up besides expanding facilities for agro-technical training, and vocational training institutes.

Regarding improvement in communications in the state, he said, 1600 miles of metalled roads would be constructed thus making the total length of metalled roads in the state 3,000 miles. Apart from this, he added, 180 new bridges will also be constructed in the state. The districts of Azad Kashmir other than Muzaffarabad, will also be connected to the direct-dialling telephone service with Pakistan shortly, he informed.

Brig. Hayat Khan said, clean water and sanitation facilities for the whole state would be provided by 1990. He said that efforts are also underway to increase agricultural output by at least 50 per cent. Special attention was being paid to the expansion of forests and the present number of 8 lakh trees would be nearly tripled through afforestation.—PPL

DDI: 4220/546

PAKISTAN

AJK PRESIDENT SAYS FUTURE LINKED WITH PAKISTAN

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 12

[Article by Brig Hayat]

[Text]

SARGODHA, April 22. The Azad Jammu and Kashmir President, Brig. Mohammad Hayat, has said the future of Jammu and Kashmir state is linked with Pakistan, and added that only a strong Pakistan was the best guarantee of the welfare of Jammu and Kashmir people. It was therefore, in our own interest to make Pakistan stronger than before under the Islamic leadership of President Zia-ul-Haq.

Addressing a largely attended public meeting of the Mangla Dam affectees, settled in and around Sargodha, at the Jinnah Hall at the start of his five-day tour of various Punjab cities, he briefly spelled out the requirements of the current phase of the national history urging the state nationals to respond to the call of the time by further strengthening the hands of Pakistan President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq was striving sincerely to build Pakistan as a true fortress of Islam.

PAKISTAN IDEOLOGY

The Azad Jammu and Kashmir President, Brig. Mohammad Hayat Khan, said that the necessary institutional representation work has been speeded up to implement the essentials of the Pakistan ideology in Azad Jammu and Kashmir as the major national objective of the present government.

MAJLIS-I-SHOORA

Brig Hayat reiterated that the proposed Majlis-i-Shoora to be set up soon in Azad Jammu and Kashmir, would consist of pious people enjoying confidence of the people.

This institution, he said would help accelerate the pace of Islamisation and economic welfare of the people. He assured the Mangla Dam affectees that utmost attention was being paid towards the solution of various problems being faced by them.

He said he was himself studying their requirements and would have a meeting in this regard with the Governor of Punjab. Steps were also underway for acquisition of land for the affectees, he added.—PPI.

SD: 4220/547

SHOORA MEMBERS CALL FOR BIHARIS REPATRIATION

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, April 22--Forty-seven members of the Majlis-i-Shoora today jointly appealed to President Gen Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to arrange repatriation of two lakh Pakistani nationals who were stranded in refugee camps in Dacca since the creation of Bangladesh.

Going completely contrary to the Government's known policy on the subject, in a signed statement released at a largely attended Press conference where 24 of the signatories were present, they said they were sorry that the issue of these patriotic Pakistanis which was linked with Pakistan's national, Islamic and ideological principles could not be considered in the Majlis-i-Shoora "despite repeated efforts to raise it" during the just-concluded session.

The joint statement, read out at the Press conference by Mr Zahoorul Hasan Bhopali, specially referred to Mr Zain Noorani's resolution asking for the repatriation of these Pakistanis and the adjournment motions which were sought to be moved by Hafiz Mohammad Taqi and Mr Bhopali on the hunger strike of these Pakistanis and the delay in their repatriation and said that a discussion on these had become necessary after the reply given by the Federal Finance Minister to a question by Mr Noorani on the same subject.

"We were certain," the statement said, that the House "will discuss Mr Noorani's resolution on the private members' day. Later, many members submitted requests for re-fixation of time for consideration of various resolutions so that this important resolution which related to the ideology of Pakistan and the life-and-death question of two lakh human beings could be discussed, but we are sorry that despite our efforts this resolution could not be brought under discussion."

It said: "Showing respect for the rules and regulations of the Majlis-i-Shoora, we seek pardon from our two lakh Pakistani brothers that the House could not express its unambiguous opinion on their issue. But a large number of (Shoora) members have expressed full sympathy for this human problem."

"We support Mr Zain Noorani's resolution which offers salute to the courage and patriotism of those Rihari Muslims who had accepted Pakistan nationality while migrating to East Pakistan in 1947 and again in 1971 after the creation of Bangladesh--risking the lives and property," the statement said.

Speaking at the Press conference, Mr Noorani asserted that these people were Pakistanis whose patriotism had been tested twice and they had full right to be repatriated to Pakistan.

CSO: 4220/547

COMMENTARY ON SHOORA SESSION--RURAL POVERTY SLATED

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 p 14

[Article by Anis Mirza]

[Excerpt]

ISLAMABAD, April 19: He stood alone and valiant and took the onslaught of protests from the landlords in the Majlis-i-Shoora with singular aplomb. Celebrated newspaper columnist "Meem Sheen", former Chief Reporter of "Dawn", Delhi, and several post-partition newspapers, took the Majlis by storm by his hard-hitting, scintillating speech in Urdu.

Quoting profusely from the injunctions of the Holy Quran, the speeches of Quaid-i-Azam Mohammad Ali Jinnah and Allama Iqbal, the 68-year-old Mian Mohammad Shafi, popularly known as "Meem Sheen", speaking in the agricultural debate at noon today, reminded the House that success was neither measured by mere harvests or self-sufficiency, but by the whole gamut of organised outlook and fundamental egalitarian philosophies.

The Jullundhar-born peasant's son, who later became a leading urban intellectual of Lahore, said Pakistan was still considered a backward country as far as resources were concerned. He said for long years and even today, it was living virtually on a beggar's bowl. The land reforms of Ayub and Bhutto were an eyewash, he said, since lands had been cleverly distributed quickly among relatives. "From Sardars of Baluchistan, the Khans of NWFP to the Jagirdars of Sind and Punjab", Mian Shafi said, very little had actually passed into the hands of poor peasants. The country's increasing rural poverty was a proof of its illusory prosperity.

Several members got up and shouted back at Meem Sheen when he touched on concepts of Islamic social justice. "I challenge any member here, but this is not the Ummat-i-Mohammediya. Of the 62 per cent who cultivate, in terms of ownership only a few have 1 to 7 acres of land. Do you think they can afford to buy your expensive seeds, tractors and pay your bank interests?" The former Muslim Leaguer snapped back angrily. Ulama sat quiet.

There was constant commotion and interruption in the Majlis, when Mian Shafi said: "The Pakistan of the Quaid-i-Azam and Allama Iqbal was not the continuance of landlordism, jagirdari and feudalism." The columnist-politician shouted back at the members and warned the House that Pakistan would be faced with greater shortages in future if no minimum land ceiling was set, as done by the neighbouring East Punjab. As he sat down, the bespectacled former member of the Punjab Assembly chanted: "It is God who gives the green fields and harvests, but it is also God who takes them away when there is no justice from man to man."

Yet another voice from the Punjab lashed out against landlordism, and urged that pristine prosperity could only be measured when there was basic structural changes in the land pattern. Chaudhury Mohammad Altaf Hussain of Jhelum gave a very animated appraisal of the poverty and degradation of the peasantry in Pakistan. Quoting

from the speeches of the Quaid, particularly one delivered in Chittagong in former East Pakistan. Chaudhury Altaf reminded the Majlis that Father of the Nation had repeatedly talked of the greatest good to the poorest Muslim.

The lawyer from Jhelum quoted at length from the Muslim League Agrarian Reforms Committee report, and argued that the Quaid's first concern after the partition was to dispense with uneconomic land holdings, halt fragmentation and move towards fixation of a minimum ceiling. Speaking with ease in Urdu, Chaudhury Altaf said that with 70 per cent of the rural people owning less than one acre of land, it was meaningless to talk of self-sufficiency and agricultural prosperity.

The tenor of young members from Sind and Karachi stood in sharp contrast. Mr Hussain Haroon, 31-year-old grandson of Haji Abdullah Haroon, participating in the agricultural policy debate, stressed the urgent neces-

sity of imparting functional education, information and creating awareness in the farming community. Mr Haroon was perhaps the only one who touched on the theme of credit-in-kind, referring to the small 10-acre farm holder. He argued that instead of creating new institutions a credit-in-kind system, synonymous to the revenue system in reverse, should be instituted.

Speaking on the cost benefit ratio, Mr Haroon said rural labour took greater risks by putting in more inputs, more working hours with lower net return, as compared to the industrial worker, and also paid more indirect taxes. Quoting figures, he termed the price ceiling of crops fixed by the Government discriminatory. Referring to the 1940 drainage system, conceived by the British, Mr Haroon warned that the eighties would be a rough period for Pakistan since cost of cultivation had gone up by 500 per cent.

CSO: 4220/546

MINISTER ON EFFORTS FOR INTEREST-FREE ECONOMY

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 6

[Text] Islamabad, April 22--The Minister for Production and Railways, Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir on Wednesday told Majlis-i-Shoora that the Government was sincerely trying to establish interest-free economy in the country. But this could be achieved with the passage of time and with the increase in the country's resources. He was replying to a supplementary question.

Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir said that Rs 2295 million had been deposited in interest-free saving accounts till June 30 last.

He said interest-free counters were opened by nationalised commercial banks on Jan 1, 1981.

He said deposits in the interest-bearing savings accounts during the same period was Rs 28073 million.

He said the Government had directed the banks to invest the interest-free deposits in only those places which had a few chances of losses. This had been done to ensure safety of the deposits in profit and loss sharing scheme which was gradually attracting the people, he said.

The Minister, replying to a supplementary question said the Government did not plan to advance interest-free loans interest-free account holders.

The Minister said it was very difficult to introduce complete interest-free banking overnight because the loans borrowed from abroad were taken on interest.

Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir replying to a question of Mr Zain Noorani said that preparation of sixth five-year plan 1983-88 had begun.

He said Dr Mahbubul Haq, Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission was preparing and meeting people from all sections of life in this regard.

The Minister, replying to another question of the same member, said the financial institutions generally refused to give loans for two reasons.

These were inadequate funds or if the scheme was not feasible.

He said only Industrial Development Bank of Pakistan and Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan accepted agricultural land as security for granting loans.

He said IDBP loans were normally secured against mortgage of fixed assets (lands, buildings and machinery) of the borrowing enterprise.

The Minister informed the House that following types of interest-free loans were given to the Government employees: house building loan to employees in Grade 1 to 15 and loan for purchase of cycles.

He said interest is charged on the following types of loans: house building loan to Government employees in Grade 16 and above.

Loan for purchase of conveyance like motor cars and motorcycles.

He said the rate of interest since 1978-79 onwards has been as under:

1978-79	12 percent
1979-80	12.5 percent
1980-81	13 percent
1981-82	13 percent

Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir replying to a question from Malik Fateh Khan said that people should take steps to check the population growth. He said 43.6 percent of the population was under 15 years of age and added 20 percent of the people comprised females in the reproductive age group.

He said death rate had declined from 20 to 12 per thousand persons in the 15 year period of 1965-80.

The Minister replying to a question from Begum Mahmooda Sultana said that promotion policy was not frequently revised in the State Bank. It had been revised only thrice during the last 13 years.

This was done in 1969, 1975 and again in 1979 which was still operative without any fundamental change.

He disclosed that promotion policy was revised to make it more progressive, objective and to lay down clear cut criteria for promotion.

Lt-Gen Saeed Qadir replying to Mr Mumtaz Ahmad Tarar's question, said that the total amount of foreign loans repayable as on Dec 31, 1981 was 9,467 billion dollars.

The Minister, replying to a supplementary question, said this also included interest to be paid for various loans.

The Minister, in an answer to a question from Mr Zahoorul Hassan Bhopali said that no special cell had been created to review the taxes. However, structure of the taxes was under constant review by the authorities concerned.--APP

CSO: 4220/547

FINANCE MINISTER SPEAKS ON INFLATION

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 1

[Excerpt]

ISLAMABAD April 22: Finance Minister Ghulam Ishaq Khan said today that the present Government had tried to keep the inflation rate within reasonable limits through various fiscal, monetary and administrative measures.

He said average rate of inflation in 1977-80 in Pakistan had been 8.5 per cent against 23 per cent in the non-oil developing countries and 10.8 per cent of the global level.

He said inflation could be restricted to within reasonable limits by increasing productivity and augmenting domestic supplies.

The Minister was speaking on a motion by Haji Basirullah Khan on the concluding day of the second session of the Majlis-Shoora. The motion was moved under rule 10 to discuss a matter arising out of a reply given by the Minister to a question on April 4 regarding rate of inflation in the country from 1960-61 to 1980-81.

Mr Ishaq said the country first faced inflation in 1962 when Korean boom suddenly ended. Later, the 1968 war and oil price hike in 1970s contributed to inflation in the country.

He said that in 1970-77 the average rate of inflation in Pakistan was 14 per cent against 17.8 per cent in the non-oil developing countries and 9.8 per cent global rate. Except for this period, the rate of inflation in Pakistan had remained below the global rate, he added.

The Minister said 4.3 per cent inflation in Pakistan was externally induced. Among other reasons were incentives to producers in the form of a raise in support price of agricultural produce, and a vicious circle in which each one of us kept up inflation by being a beneficiary and a victim of it. Similarly, money supply was also directly correlated to rate of inflation.

He said inflation in certain respects could disrupt whole society but it could not be isolated from international situation.

He did not agree to the suggestion that remittances from abroad were contributing towards inflation, and observed that these remittances were in foreign exchange which was utilised in paying for import of goods and services.

He said one good development in the rural society due to these remittances was that the common man was now outbidding the Wadras and big landlord to buy land and this broke the monopoly of the Wadras.

He said overseas remittances had provided valuable support to the economy "which might have succumbed without them."

He regretted that consumption rate in Pakistan was one of highest in the world while saving rate was among the lowest. Pakistanis were consuming 80 per cent of their production, he added.

CSO: 4220/547

COMPREHENSIVE POPULATION PLANNING PROGRAM LAUNCHED

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 12

[Text]

QUETTA, April 22. A 20-year comprehensive programme has been launched by the Federal Government for the development of social welfare services and population planning in the country.

This was stated here by Dr Attiya Inayatullah, Adviser to the President on Population Planning and Social Welfare, on arrival here on Tuesday morning on a day's visit.

She told newsmen that a substantial amount out of the current year's allocation of Rs 100 million for the programme would be spent in Baluchistan and other less developed areas of the country.

Dr Attiya said the plan envisaged greater child and mother care, reduction in birth and mortality rates, education of rural and urban women and promotion of various skills so as to bring women folk in the mainstream of national life.

The programme would also motivate people and make them realize the need of striking a balance between population and resources.

Replying to a question, she said local customs and traditions had been kept in view while evolving the population planning strategy in the province. Local people in Baluchistan, she added, would be associated in implementation of the programme on voluntary basis.

Dr Attiya said 34 welfare centres had been set up in Baluchistan. She said a training programme for staff was at present being implemented and hoped that entire staff would be trained by June this year.

Soon after her arrival in Quetta, she attended the inaugural meeting of the newly set up Provincial Population Welfare Council for Baluchistan which was chaired by Governor Lt-Gen Rahimuddin Khan.

CCO: 4220/547

TEACHERS' PROBLEMS DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 15

[Text]

THE school teachers and Baluchistan joined their colleagues in the Punjab and the NWFP in pressing for their demands. Thus the problem has acquired a national dimension. If school studies have not been completely disrupted everywhere, it is partly because of the restraint shown by the teachers themselves and partly because of the failure of the various groups in the teaching profession to draw up a unified strategy. Yet the school teachers have managed to make their discontent widely known. The "mass contact week," they are now observing and their move to join hands with the college teachers have certainly helped highlight their hardships.

These are primarily of a financial nature, and if teachers are not satisfied with their emoluments it is not too difficult to understand. According to the teachers' spokesman, their average salary ranges between Rs 400 and Rs 500 per month which is roughly what a domestic servant earns in one of the big cities. It reflects on our sense of values and the Government's priorities that people not engaged in intellectual or mental pursuits are better remunerated than a

teacher who invests much time, energy and money in his education in order to qualify to be entrusted with the moral and intellectual training of our children. This indifference towards the status and dignity of those who are supposed to be the torchbearers of education and knowledge is most distressing. Leaving aside the question of values, it is important that the teachers be spared the perpetual worry of how to make both ends meet, so that they can concentrate on giving of their best to the students. The distinction which is made in terms of house rents and other allowances between teachers serving in the rural areas and the big cities is not really justified. It is a myth that the overall cost of living is lower in the small towns. In some respects, those who go to the rural areas to spread the light of knowledge have to put up with more hardships than their colleagues in the cities. Uniform pay scales and allowances should be fixed for all school teachers, irrespective of the place of their posting. The Government has repeatedly made it clear that the problems of teachers will be "fairly solved." But previous efforts to discover a basis for compromise

have ended in failure. And now it appears that attempts to find a negotiated settlement have almost petered out. This is regrettable. If an equitable solution is to be found to the school teachers' problems, a broad-based approach will have to be adopted. Primary education falls within the purview of the provinces. Since the teachers throughout the country have the same demands, a localised and piece-meal approach by the authorities might not really help. It is time the Federal Government took an active interest in the issue and advised the provincial governments on how to conduct a dialogue with the representatives of the school teachers. If all their demands cannot be immediately met because of their financial implications, the teachers' case can at least be given a sympathetic hearing and tangible assurances offered for the coming fiscal year.

The issue, in the broader sense, is that of how much the Government is prepared to

spend on education. It is regrettable that education features way down on the Government's priority list. Expenditure on education has declined from 2 per cent of GNP to only 1.5 per cent in 1980-81. Other Third World countries are spending much more — some of them as much as 6 per cent, and it shows in their literacy rates. The teachers' agitation has served to highlight the issue of our low investment in education. The Government of Pakistan and the Provincial Governments must now be engaged in carrying out exercises in connection with budget-making for 1982-83. It is to be hoped that they will remember to reorder their priorities. It is important that a much larger sum be earmarked for education in the budget. Moreover, within the education sector itself the lion's share should go to primary education. Thus alone can education be made easily accessible to a large number of people, as it should be. It needs to be treated as the democratic right of all and not the exclusive privilege of a few.

CSO: 4220/547

BALUCHISTAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS DISCUSSED

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 15

[Text]

QUETTA, April 22: A high-level conference here, presided over by Dr Mahtabul Haq, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, discussed the Annual Development Programme of Baluchistan for the next year and decided to prepare a plan of integrated development in coastal areas of the province.

It was further decided that special allocation of funds would be made available for carrying out the plan.

It was also decided to include development of Kaxar Khurasan, Toba Achakzai and Toba Kakri areas in special area development programme.

Other decisions of the conference include

— Increase in the special grants for Kohlu Agency during

the next financial year.

— Giving special consideration to sectors like power, water and communication.

— Putting in efforts to remove illiteracy.

— Providing more health facilities to people.

The conference also approved to grant more funds for providing more civic amenities in the provincial capital.

It was agreed to set up a cell in Baluchistan for evaluation and planning of development in technical fields which would be financed by the Federal Government.

Dr Mahbub, earlier called on Governor Lt-Gen. Rahimuddin Khan and discussed with him long-term and short-term development strategy for the province.

CSO: 4220/547

BUREAUCRATIC SECRECY CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

WHATEVER happens to the findings of the committees and commissions appointed to enquire into issues of major national concern? The standard practice is to put a seal of secrecy on them and draw the curtain. All one remembers about some specific inquiries is how initially it seemed to be a life-and-death issue, how large controversies were mopped up in the course of protracted hearings and how finally the whole proceedings were swept under the bureaucratic rug. Not only that inquiry reports are not disclosed to the people, the administration normally pays no heed to the recommendations contained in them. In any case, one would not know what became of a particular investigation without being able to study its report. But the people have a right to know and the sense of exasperation that prevails in this respect was reflected the other day in the Majlis-i-Shoora session. A member was anxious to know, during question hour, why the report on the distribution of Indus water had not been submitted so far. He also asked why the Justice Fazle Akbar Report was not publicised. The member charged: "Why don't you take the people of Pakistan into confidence?" This is the crux of the matter.

Inquiries conducted at public expense are not meant to be little games that groups of officials play for months, even years. Such highly expensive exercises can only be justified when they are made public in their entirety and when positive action is taken to correct lapses that the enquiries might detect in specific areas. But the practice that has been perfected by now has created a mystifying syndrome. When an issue becomes too prickly or a problem too intractable, a committee is formed to study the subject and present its recommendations. Solutions to the problem are naturally deferred until the committee returns with its findings. Hence the situation worsens. But when the committee has completed its task, the report is jealously guarded from the people and is usually put away in the bureaucratic mortuary. When the same problem is posed again, it is readily consigned to the tender care of another committee of experts. At times, an inquiry committee is formed as a stratagem for either diversion or delay. In some cases, half-measures are tried professedly in response to the experts' findings. But since the public does not know about the inwardness of the matter, it cannot judge the adequacy or other-

wise of bureaucratic action. Eventually, of course, a fresh inquiry is seen to be imminent. The merry-go-round continues. Such areas as education, civil services, health, civic administration and the prison system seem to be forever in need of institutional reforms, policy guidance and functional overhauling — in most instances without any of these things getting done. The bureaucratic search for answers to such issues is littered with undisclosed findings of experts and commissions. As the people remain ignorant of the different probes, they are deprived of a positive involvement in the management of their own affairs. This situation tends to negate their fundamental rights.

It would be an appropriate and long overdue assignment for a committee of inquiry to find out how many inquiry reports have been produced in thirty-five years of our existence. In a procedural sense, we have borrowed the method of conducting such exercises from our pre-independence rulers. But concealment of reports was not the tradition in the British days. Even reports that censured the administrators were made public. Now, when the administration is to be accountable

by virtue of its new role in the context of a free country, concealment of information has virtually become the norm. This must change. In the absence of regular democratic institutions, the Majlis-i-Shoora can make some dents in the citadel that the bureaucracy has built for itself as a defence against any known concept of public scrutiny and accountability. At least some members of the Shoora should inquire specifically about the money spent so far on the preparation of various reports. The amount is bound to be colossal, particularly when one takes into account the time top officials spend in sitting, sometimes sleepily, on committees and commissions. Occasionally, an inquiry is related to an issue of historical significance, findings of which are of paramount importance. For instance, the report of the Hamoodur Rahman Commission should be relevant in any contemplation of our destiny as a nation since it dealt with the trauma of the loss of East Pakistan. Its concealment can lead to confusion and historical distortions in the future. Another vital report, dealing with the bureaucracy itself, is that of the Pay and Services Commission, headed by Justice A.R. Cor-

nelius. The Commission was formed exactly two decades ago and its report has not yet seen the light of day. It would be in the public interest to release all such reports for general information. In fact, there should be a legal requirement for all official inquiries to be made public. Incidentally, the report of the Constitution Commission set up by Ayub Khan was made public because Justice Shahabuddin, guided, perhaps, by a premonition of what might otherwise happen, had sought a commitment, before heading it, that its findings would be released. Though its recommendations were largely set aside, the report proved instructive particularly when studied in conjunction with the 1962 Constitution which the late Field Marshal, in his wisdom, gave to the country and which he himself tore up at the end of his innings and consigned to the rubbish heap of history. Dignitaries who are called upon to head inquiries should also follow the example of Justice Shahabuddin and ensure publication of their reports. They should defend the people's right to know. Free access to information is part of the process that makes rulers and administrators accountable and forms the essence of the concept of open government.

SEPARATE NATIONALITIES CONCEPT CRITICIZED, REJECTED

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 7

[Text]

President Zia-ul-Haq told an American journalist that he approved of the scope of provincial autonomy guaranteed in the '73 Constitution, and since it was framed unanimously there should be no further amendments in it.

The President has thus clarified two basic points. Firstly, he has described as mistake the conception that there were four nationalities in Pakistan. Secondly, he dismissed the logic that the Centre had no right to intervene in the domestic problems of the provinces.

The majority of the people who mould public opinion agree with the President on both points. Pakistan is not the country of some nationalities who were already living here when it came into being. It was formed by the Muslims of the Sub-continent on the basis of their separate Muslim nationality. The country is identified with this theory. If

this theory is rejected there remains no basis for the establishment of Pakistan.

Even if the nationalities theory is held to be correct, then there are not four but scores of nationalities, on the basis of which numerous provinces can be formed in Pakistan. Then also, there is no logic in raising the question of nationalities in regard to the issue of provincial autonomy. However, the question of legitimate rights and interests is understandable.

In the '73 Constitution powers have been justifiably divided between the Centre and the provinces and the patriotic people in the provinces are satisfied over this division. But to demand that except defence, foreign affairs and currency, all other subjects be allotted to the provinces is not only not practical, it also smacks of dangerous repercussions.

Mashriq, Karachi, April 16.

CSO: 4220/545

UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION TO SET UP INSTITUTES

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 10

[Text]

LAHORE, April 18: The University Grants Commission (UGC) has decided to set up three "job-oriented" institutes, one each at Lahore, Karachi and Peshawar which are likely to start functioning from September next year.

This was disclosed by Dr Muhammad Afzal, Adviser to President on Higher Education, who is also Chairman, UGC, in an exclusive interview with PPI here on Saturday.

Giving details of the institutes, first of their nature in the country, Dr. Muhammad Afzal said, students qualifying eighth class would be eligible to get admission in one of the three groups—Arts, Science and Islamiyat—and would study consecutively for a period of eight years.

Education in one of a galaxy of technologies would be compulsory for each group which would provisionally have a strength of 30 students.

The students qualifying in Arts subjects would be awarded degree of M.A. while the ones passing in Science subjects would be eligible for degree of M.S. equivalent to M.Sc., the Adviser added.

Dr Muhammad Afzal said, the degree holders of the said institutes would be very competent in their respective fields and would get preference in Government jobs.

While for all other subjects arrangements would be available in the institutes, they would be attached with the colleges of technology for imparting training in

technology to the students of these institutes.

The President's Adviser further stated that similar institutes, with different arrangements would also be set up in other cities of the country.

Casting light on modalities of the latter kind of institutes, Dr Muhammad Afzal said, herein the students would be admitted after intermediate and after studying for a period of four years they would be awarded Master's degrees. The students would be imparted advanced knowledge with particular emphasis on Arabic, Islamiyat, Quran, Tafseer and Hadith.

Multan would be the first city to have the latter kind of institute, he indicated.

About the preliminary arrangements for the said institutes, Dr Muhammad Afzal said, the syllabi for both kinds of institutes were being drawn up. The arrangements for buildings for the first kind of institutes would be made in the near future, he added.

Answering a question about the syllabi of other schools, colleges and universities, the Adviser said, all of them were likely to undergo certain changes. He said, a committee, headed by the chairman, Pakistan Science Foundation, was already reviewing the syllabi. He hoped that the committee would prepare its recommendations by August this year after which their implementation would be started.—PPI.

CSO: 4220/545

PUNJAB, SIND TEACHERS START BOYCOTT

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 pp 1, 12

[Text]

HYDERABAD, April 18: All strata of teachers — from the primary to the University level — in Punjab and Sind provinces started token boycott of classes on Sunday as the first step of an elaborate action programme to press their demands.

Black flags were hoisted on school and college buildings in Sind at Hyderabad, Badin, Nawabshah, Shukarpur, Sukkur, Khairpur and Larkana to protest against the non-acceptance of the teachers' demands, according to a Press release issued by Prof. Salahuddin Siddiqi, President, Pakistan College Teachers Association, Hyderabad region this evening.

The Press release said this step was taken to urge upon the Government to solve the genuine and legitimate grievances of college teachers which had not received due attention of the Government after the nationalisation of colleges about 10 years back. This has created unrest and a sense of deprivation among the teaching community.

A Press release issued by the College Teachers Action Committee here said teachers boycotted classes in Thatta, Sanghar, Mirpurkhan and Dadu, also.

It further said the teachers held protest meetings and expressed regret at the negative attitude of the Bureaucracy which they added, was tantamount to inciting the teachers to come out on the streets and create law and order situation in Sind also like the one obtaining in the Punjab and NWFP.

The College Teachers Action Committee, through a resolution, urged upon the Federal Government to accept the demands of the teachers immediately so that the unrest among the teachers may come to an end.

The college teachers strike will continue till April 26, it added.

A Press release issued by the Chairman of the Sind Teachers Federation, Hyderabad, Kazi Moinuddin, said that the teachers would boycott teaching on April 19 and 20 also and observe complete hartal from April 22 to April 26.

It further said that according to the decision of the All-Sind Teachers Rabita Committee, a meeting of the District Teachers Rabita Committee will be held on April 20 at Sardar Bahadur Mohammad Bux Government Primary School, in which representatives of various teachers' associations will throw light on the efforts made so far for the acceptance of the teachers' demands.

The Chairman, STF, Hyderabad, has appealed to teachers to attend the meeting in large numbers and urged them to beware of mischief-mongers who were trying to exploit the situation to further their evil designs.

The Sind Lecturers Association has praised all the teachers of Sind for fully cooperating in the two-hour token and complete strike on April 6 and 7 and from April 10 to April 15.

The Association has announced that in accordance with the decisions of the All-Pakistan Lecturers Association (APLA), the lecturers will observe two-hour token strike from April 18 to 20 (from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. or 3.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m.) and start complete boycott of teaching from April 24.

The Press release further they would observe hartal from May 3 for an indefinite period.

The Central President of the Sind Lecturers Association, Mr. Mohammed Mohsin Atta, Senior Vice-President Kazi Sirei, President, Karachi Region, Mr. Man-

poor Chishti and General Secretary Mr Mohammed Tufail in a joint statement said that need of the hour was unity and urged the teachers to remain united and peaceful and continue their struggle for the acceptance of their genuine demands.

CALL TO ZIA

The teachers also appealed to President Zia-ul-Haq to accept the teachers' demands.

The Sind University Teachers Association has also decided to observe complete strike on April 20, 22, 27 and 28 and wear black armbands.

According to the decisions of the Federation of Pakistan Universities Academic Staff Association, Sind University teachers will also observe complete strike on different dates next month.

Similarly, approving the decisions of the Association, Mehran University teachers have also decided to observe complete strike on two days a week, that is, Tuesday and Wednesday and wear black armbands. They have also assured full support to college and primary teachers in their struggle for the acceptance of their demands.

PUNJAB

Our Correspondent adds from Faisalabad:

The Majlis-i-Amal of the Asateza-Punjab comprising all representative bodies of school and college teachers, has floated a "Protest Programme" in the whole province.

Disclosing this Prof Mahmood Ahmed Akhtar, President of the Punjab Professors' Association and an important member of the "Teachers Action Committee" told "Dawn" that under the protest programme, the entire teaching staff of schools and colleges has started "one hour boycott" of classes from Sunday which will continue till April 20.

He said that the teachers would observe "full-day boycott" of classes from April 24 to April 26 and in case the Government did not accept the genuine demands of the teachers all teachers and professors of the educational institutions in the Punjab province would resort to general strike.

from May 3 for an indefinite period.

Prof Mahmood Ahmed Akhtar further said the All-Pakistan Professors and Lecturers Association fully endorsed the programme of the Action Committee and joined the teaching staff in their protest to press for their demands.

The Punjab Professors Association chief demanded that a time-scale for all categories of teachers be introduced, uniform house rent be given at all places, besides the grant of rural allowance for teachers working in the villages, equal chances of promotion be provided for general nationalised and provincialised school and college teachers within their cadres, pension for nationalised school teachers be fixed, medical allowance be granted to all teaching staff, charge allowance be given to the principals and headmasters, besides the removal of anomalies in case of Assistant Professors, headmasters, subject specialists and Directors of Physical Education, and the setting up of "Teachers Foundation" for school and college teachers out of the benevolent fund contributed by the teachers, professors and other teaching staff which forms atleast about 45 per cent of the whole fund deposited by all Government employees.

The PPA chief regretted that despite the clear-cut assurance of the Federal Minister for Education and Federal Education Secretary, the demands of the teachers had not been acceded to by the authorities concerned.

He said that since last Nov 18 the office-bearers of the Punjab Professors Association and the All-Pakistan Professors and Lecturers Association have been calling on the Punjab Minister and Secretary for Education for the "implementation of the gentleman's agreement" but nothing has materialised so far.

Finally, all teachers working in schools and colleges of the Punjab province had no alternative but to form Majlis-i-Amal of the Asateza-Punjab and to demonstrate silent protest by wearing black badges from April 14 to April 17.

The PPA chief called upon President Gen. Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and the Governor of Punjab Lt-Gen. Shulam Jilani Khan, to intervene and order for redressal of the genuine demands of the teachers.

Dawn Lahore Bureau add:

Teachers from all the nationalised and Government controlled educational institutions at various levels in the Punjab on Sunday observed protest and some of them boycotted classes for the acceptance of their demands.

From the level of primary school to university, the teachers were either on token strike or on general boycott of classes, anyhow they remained within the premises of their institutions.

Due to the token strike observed by the college teachers, who wore black armbands on the call of the Majlis-i-Amal-i-Asateza, house examinations in colleges started late.

Punjab Teachers' Union sources, when asked to comment on reports there was a breakthrough in connection with the acceptance of their demands, said so far no official intimation has been received. The teachers were waiting for a positive step, if the Government wanted to take, one, for the welfare of the teaching community, they added.

The decision to call off protest rallies and agitations had been taken as a gesture of goodwill to give ample time to the authorities to amicably settle the issue.

Mr Abdul Ghaffar Ghaffar, President of the union, was very much in the Federal capital to pursue the matter, but no encouraging response has been given by the authorities.

On the other hand, university teachers, who have also been boycotting classes for the last ten days, have convened a meeting of the general body of their Staff Association to consider future course of action.

When contacted, the authorities at various tiers were said to be engaged in preparing possible solutions to the problems of the teachers.

GHAFOOR URGES GOVERNMENT TO END UNCERTAINTY

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 12

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, April 18: Prof Ghafur Ahmad of the defunct Jamaat-i-Islami today demanded that the present uncertainty must be put to an end immediately because, he said, Pakistan's internal as well as external situation was such that it could not carry on with this uncertainty for long without exposing itself to grave dangers.

Talking to newsmen at the Jamaat office in Rawalpindi, Prof Ghafur said the Government must announce by July this year, if not immediately, what was its real intention and how it proposed to run the affairs of the State — by perpetuating the Martial Law or by handing over power to the people's representatives.

If, he said, the intention was to establish an Islamic system and then transfer power, the Government must precisely say how long will it need to complete its task.

He said the political parties wished to settle the problem through a peaceful understanding, and therefore, were keeping away from a course which might lead to the other direc-

tion. But, he added, this situation could not last long.

Prof Ghafur thought that the law and order situation in the country was not satisfactory, and the intentions of the Zulfikar Government did not appear to be good. It was, therefore, essential to resolve the internal issues through a consensus so that the entire nation could be united to back the Armed Forces in case they were called upon to defend the borders.

Replying to a question, he said the Jamaat-i-Islami was always in favour of settling issues through negotiations. It negotiated with the PPP in 1977 when the latter was in power, and the Jamaat could again talk to it if a need arose.

He said the argument that elections in the present conditions would not enable any party to get majority and form a stable government, was not valid as in the past also coalition governments had been formed. Moreover, if elections had to come, the Army could again come back.

CSO: 4220/545

SHOPS CLOSE IN PROTEST TO ROBBERY

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 pp 1, 14

[Text] All the 70 shops in a Clifton locality remained closed in protest against an armed robbery at Kehkashan Centre on Sunday evening in which a salesman was shot dead and another was wounded by four armed robbers who decamped with Rs 7,000 cash.

Mr Shamim Alam, 30-year-old salesman of the Departmental store, received a shotgun wound in his throat and the pellets travelled to his head killing him instantly. The 0.12 bore shotgun was fired from a very close range.

Another victim, Ashraf Khan, father of two children, received pellet wounds in his legs leaving him with multiple bone fractures. He was admitted to the hospital for treatment.

The shooting incident took place when the armed robbers took the cash and were about to flee in their 1974 model Corolla car standing nearby.

The salesmen misunderstood the whole operation. They thought the robbers were carrying "dummy revolvers." They started the chase and when they were about to overpower the robbers, the accused burst open the fire.

The accused occupying the driver's seat also opened fire to rescue his accomplices.

Shamim Alam, who got a job in the store about a month back, fell after the first gunshot from a point blank range.

Nazim, owner of the store and his younger brother did not receive any injury as they did not chase the culprits after handing over the cash.

The armed robbers' exact number could not be ascertained from any persons present there. Robbers reached the store at about 7.45 p.m. It was the only shop

open at that time.

It was the second armed robbery at the same shop. Earlier it was robbed last Ramazan just before I'tar time.

Eye witnesses say the robbers were wearing Kameez-Shalwar suits, spoke Urdu with some rural accent, and were in twenties.

Nobody jotted down the number of the car. Karachi's 56 police stations said report of theft of Toyota Corolla (1974 model) was not registered anywhere in the city.

The police have registered a murder and armed robbery case

Special police pickets on all important intersections have been posted to nab the culprits. Police have shown photographs of notorious robbers to the owners and the other eye witnesses.

According to preliminary investigations, the accused used a old model car which is unusual for such crimes. Besides, hardened criminals do not normally strike for the sake of a few thousand rupees, investigators said.

It was the ninth armed robbery in the same locality during the last one year.

CSO: 4220/546

TEXTILE EXPORTS TO UNITED STATES TO INCREASE

Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 pp 1, 14

[Text]

The US Ambassador in Pakistan Mr Ronald I Spiers, has said the private sector has a key role to play in acquiring and bringing together the technology and capital required for the development of Pakistan.

Addressing industrialists and businessmen at a reception arranged in his honour by Pakistan-USA Trade and Industry Committee of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry on Monday at Hotel Holiday Inn, he said "your initiative and enterprise have been significant factors in forging the commercial links which help bind our two countries since 1947". He added the United States had been a major trading partner, a significant source of foreign investment, and by far the largest donor of bilateral economic assistance to Pakistan.

The Ambassador informed the audience that US interest in a strong and independent Pakistan would continue and the US Government had recently committed itself to a major 3.2 billion dollar assistance package which would provide balance of

payments support funds for economic development and purchase of essential defence equipment over a six-year period. He said a specific portion of this commitment would be directed to programmes to foster the private sector and encourage investment.

Referring to significant level of commerce between the two countries, Mr Spiers pointed out that the nature of trade ties had undergone change over the years as Pakistan had moved toward industrial and agricultural self-sufficiency, but the US exports still totalled a very respectable 600 million dollars annually. The difference between what Pakistan exported and what Pakistan imported from the United States, about 600 million dollars was still large, but aggressive Pakistani entrepreneurs have begun to close the gap, he said noting with satisfaction that Pakistan's exports to the US have about quadrupled since 1977.

That development, he said, demonstrated the potential for Pakistani products in the US

market and it augured well.

Underlining the importance of promoting sustained economic growth for generation of foreign exchange, the US Ambassador said it was in our mutual interest that the international trading system be strengthened to create new and expanding opportunities for commerce.

Referring to the international trading order which is passing through considerable strain, he pointed out that protectionist sentiment had given rise to new and subtle types of import barriers, pressure for export subsidies, quotas, and other policies which distort free trade. Such policies were, he added, often defended as being necessary during periods of recession and slow growth, but in fact trade restraints threaten to exacerbate further the recessionary pressures affecting us all and, in a protectionist world environment, it was the developing countries which would suffer most.

In case of Pakistan, the recently-concluded bilateral agreement on textiles best illustrated the US commitment to resist this trend.

Referring to recession in US and textile industry there seeking protection, Mr Spiers said the bilateral agreement was expected to increase Pakistani textile exports to his country by seven percent a year.

On non-cotton textiles, he pointed out, there were no limits on Pakistan sales, and the potential for exports of blended textiles could be significant. The US-Pakistan textile agreement was the most liberal bilateral agreement that this country has with any major western nation and reflected the US belief that new-to-market countries should be given preferential market access, he added.

The Ambassador said the US Government had been active in promoting Pakistan as an area with potential for US private investment and that there had been a favourable response to these efforts as was manifested by the recent visit of the US-Pakistan Economic Council.

He believed that joint ventures were an excellent means for transferring technology and know-how to the developing world and felt pleased to observe that the climate for foreign investment in Pakistan was improving.

But, he added, new initiatives to rationalise pricing, tax, and labour policies would be welcomed by foreign investors.

Reviewing the US assistance and cooperation, he said for almost 20 years the US has been providing bilateral economic assistance to Pakistan, totalling to date five billion dollars.

Giving an-objective assessment of assistance he said first phase of US assistance during the 1960s focused on supporting work by the first Caliph of Pakistan's critical efforts to handle the challenge associated with creation of a new nation, emphasising disaster relief, including food aid, infrastructure rehabilitation and expansion, further imports to increase agricultural products and technical assistance.

Explaining the new phase of assistance, he said that of the

12 billion dollar aid package, 1.675 billion dollar would be devoted to economic programme with the two Governments emphasising two major goals. First to alleviate Pakistan's balance of payments problems by financing imports, and by using dollars to cover local costs of development projects. Loans to finance the imports of fertiliser, agricultural equipment, vegetable oil and medicines, for example, he added, would mean that Pakistan could make its own scarce foreign exchange holdings stretch further while dollar funds would cover local costs represent at net addition to Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves and directly ease pressures on the balance of payments.

The second major goal of the programme was to help Pakistan achieve its long-run growth and development objectives. He pointed out that if the country's balance of payments difficulties were reduced, it would be easier to mount and sustain the investment and financial programmes required for economic progress.

Earlier, in her address of welcome Begum Salma Ahmed, chairman Pakistan-US Trade and Industry Committee of Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry appreciated the assistance and cooperation offered by the US Government in furthering the trade relations between the two countries.

CSO: 4220/546

WHEAT PROCUREMENT TARGET FOR PUNJAB

Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 4

[Text]

LAHORE April 19: The Punjab Government will procure 1800,000 metric tonnes of wheat during the procurement drive, which will start from April 20. The acting Food Secretary, Punjab, Mr. Naveed Ahsan said that the target for this year was the highest ever fixed for Punjab.

Out of the total procured wheat 19 lakh metric tonnes would be procured by the Punjab Food Department while the remaining 9.50 lakh tonnes by the Pakistan Agricultural Storage and Services Corporation (PASSCO), he said.

The Punjab Food Department has set up 400 procurement centres in wheat growing areas of Punjab. The price of wheat will be the same as announced by the Government last year i.e. Rs 145 per quintal (100kg) or Rs 58 per 40 kilograms.

Mr Naveed said last year Punjab Food Department had procured 21,000 metric tonnes of wheat out of which about 10 lakh metric tonnes will remain in the pipeline before the start of procurement drive.

The procurement would be strictly on voluntary basis and the growers would not be forced to sell their produce to the Government.

The Acting Secretary said that every grain of wheat of average good quality offered by the growers would be purchased. The payment of the produce would be made on the spot. For this purpose, the Secretary said, bank booths have been set up at every procurement centre.

There is no ban on inter-district movement of wheat, however, the inter-provincial wheat movement would be allowed only by rail. Wheat on Government account, however, can be moved by road also.

The Acting Food Secretary said, that the Punjab Government would supply 6 lakh metric tonnes of wheat to deficit provinces while PASSCO would supply its total procurement to the deficit provinces.

Replies to a question, he said that jute bags would be supplied to the growers for wheat packing on personal safety.

Special committees have been formed to check the procurement centres and remove bottlenecks confronting the growers. He made it clear that only average good quality of wheat would be procured and the damaged wheat or that of inferior quality would not be procured.—PPI

CSO: 4220/545

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

SHOORA SESSION PROROGUED--Islamabad, April 22--The President prorogued this afternoon the second session of the Majlis-i-Shoora which lasted 20 days during which it discussed agriculture policy, Islamisation of laws and a number of other important subjects. Chairman Khwaja Mohammad Safdar, who presided over the concluding session, today read out the President's order proroguing the session. He said the next session was expected to be held in June. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 1]

ABBASI ON TEACHERS' STRIKE--Hyderabad, April 22--The situation created by the countrywide strike of the teachers is a national issue and would be solved by the Federal Government. This was stated by the Sind Governor Lt-Gen S.M. Abbasi at Sehwan today. Talking to newsmen, he said that a viable and unanimous formula acceptable to the teachers of all the four provinces should be evolved for a permanent solution of the problems faced by the teaching community. The Governor said that he would be happy and play his due role to see the things settled amicably so that academic peace and congenial atmosphere prevails. Gen Abbasi said that the Federal Government was on the job and would find out some way to settle the issue.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 1]

WOMEN AGAINST TRAVEL BAN--The women's Action Forum has strongly protested against the Government decision Government decision banning women from going abroad to participate in international sports events. In a statement issued yesterday they said the women-folk have been deprived of some more of their already limited rights following the decision. No individual has the right to pass and impose arbitrary rulings that directly affect the natural rights and liberties of peoples as citizens of a country. They said such action have become order of the day. It is even most unseemly that Islamisation should be used as a pretext for virtually any prejudicial action against women, they added. Banning women from going abroad to participate in the international sports meet is blatant discrimination against Pakistani Muslim women and it means suppression of 50 percent population they observed.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 16]

UNIVERSITY TEACHERS' STRIKE BACKED--A general body meeting of the Karachi University Teachers' Society endorsed on Thursday the decision of the Federation of All-Pakistan Universities Academic Staff Associations to observe strike for the acceptance of the demands of the university teachers. Over 90

teachers attended the KUTS meeting which continued for two hours and later adjourned till the next week. The meeting also endorsed the KUTS working committee's decision regarding the promotions of the teachers of Karachi University. It demanded that if two out of the three reports of foreign experts on the promotion of teachers are positive the Selection Committee should consider the issue of promotions instead of waiting for three positive reports by three experts. The meeting demanded that the cases of those members who were out of the country and could not apply in response to the March 1980 advertisement, but fulfilled its requirements should be considered for promotions. The KUTS demanded that for subjects in which research work is done in Pakistani languages, those experts be appointed who are fully conversant with these languages. In the departments where experts have not yet filed their opinion, some other expert from the already approved list be appointed and his opinion sought. Later, talking to newsmen, the General Secretary of the KUTS, Mr Nihal Rizvi, said the University's present situation was not discussed at the meeting. However, he said the University's problems should be solved within the Campus. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 23 Apr 82 p 16]

CHINESE PRESSMEN IN CITY--Five-member Chinese journalists delegation, led by Mr Jiang Yuan Vhun, Deputy Director of the International News Department of "People's Daily," flew into Karachi last night on a 10-day goodwill visit to Pakistan.--APP [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 p 1]

PUNJAB UNIVERSITY TEACHERS BOYCOTT WORK--Lahore, April 19--The general body of the Punjab University Academic Staff Association unanimously decided today to initiate an indefinite boycott of all academic and administrative work from tomorrow until their demands are accepted. According to a Press release issued by the Association, the general body also resolved not to invite the Vice-Chancellor to any function in the departments, institutes and constituent colleges. The decision regarding indefinite boycott has been taken after three months of continued protest to which the Vice-Chancellor has not responded. The Association appealed to the Chancellor to intervene in the matter and instruct the Vice-Chancellor to intervene in the matter and instruct the Vice-Chancellor to solve all the problems of the community. The demands of the Association include: promotion of all eligible teachers and research staff, completion of the syndicate and Selection Board, withdrawal of the transfer clause from the University Ordinance and actions taken under it, and confirmation of temporary teachers who had been working for a long time. Our Hyderabad Correspondent adds: Professors and lecturers of Government cadre in Hyderabad, Thatta, Sanghar and other districts of Hyderabad and Sukkur Divisions observed strike and boycotted classes today, says a Press release issued by the College Teachers Action Committee here this evening. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 20 Apr 82 p 1]

UNIVERSITY BLOCK LOCKED--The supporters of Karachi University Students Union locked the main entrance of the Administration Block on Sunday morning and sprinkled oil in the porch besides exploding some crackers in the Campus. Police broke open the lock after about an hour, says a KUSU Press release. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 8]

UNIVERSITY NEGOTIATIONS BODY MEETS--The first meeting of the Karachi Citizens' Committee to solve the problems at Karachi University was held on Saturday under the chairmanship of the Mayor, Mr Abdus Sattar Afghani. The meeting decided to hear the grievances of the various groups and sort out their problems which may be acceptable to all concerned. The meeting heard the point of view of the Karachi University Students' Union which was represented by its President, Mr Mahmood Ghaznavi. It was further decided that members of the committee will call on the Vice-Chancellor and the Home Secretary Sind to acquaint themselves with the viewpoint of the administration. The meeting also decided to frequently meet to sort out the problem as early as possible which include the withdrawal of rustication orders and the notices issued to the students as well as release of the arrested students.--PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 8]

FOREIGN STUDY BY PAKISTANIS--The Cabinet also took stock of the existing education facilities for Pakistani students studying abroad under various scholarship schemes and cultural pacts and the foreign students coming to Pakistan for similar purpose of education in universities. An official spokesman told the newsmen at a briefing that the Cabinet decided that in future students would be sent abroad on scholarships keeping in view the national economic and social needs of the country. The selection of such students would be made according to the number of foreign scholarships and on the basis of provincial quota. Students going for higher studies in scientific subjects would be preferred. Similarly, the Cabinet decided to set up a foreign students bureau under the Federal Ministry of Education. The bureau will help formulate necessary programmes. For grant of Pakistan scholarships to foreign students under various cultural exchanges and other plans in Pakistan. The Cabinet also considered the problems faced by the former employees of then East Pakistan Government and autonomous bodies and decided that those who had repatriated or migrated after December 1971 up to March 1974 might be absorbed and given their seniority. The Cabinet also decided to enhance the powers of magistrates to impose fine under Section 32 of Cr PC. The limit of fine for class one magistrate has been increased from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 15,000, the second class magistrate from Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 5,000 and for the third class magistrate from Rs. 50 to Rs. 1,000. The Cabinet also decided that the House Building Finance Corporation will grant loan for house damaged by usage or by national calamity. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 12]

WALI WILLING TO TALK--Peshawar, April 18--Khan Abdul Wali Khan crossed from Afghanistan into Pakistan today and told newsmen at Torkham he was ready to go to Islamabad to apprise President Zia-ul-Haq of his talks with the Afghan government leaders provided he was invited to do so. And before going to Islamabad, should he be invited, he would first take his party leaders into confidence on the talks. He was brought to Torkham all the way from Kabul in a procession of cars, accompanied by several Afghan officials. As the procession approached Torkham, the participants got down from the cars and walked the remaining distance to the border post with Mr Wali and Begum Nasim Wali Khan at the head. Afghan border guards presented a guard of honour. Prominent office-bearers of the defunct NDP were waiting at the border to welcome their leaders. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 18 Apr 82 p 12]

WORLD MUSLIM ARMY SUGGESTED--The Mayor of Karachi, Mr Abdul Sattar Afghani, said Jehad was the only way for the Liberation of Palestine. Addressing a meeting of Jamiat Itehhad Alam-i-Islami at Hotel Metropole on Sunday to condemn the desecration of Al-Aqsa Mosque, the Mayor said the day Muslims decide to wage Jehad for the recovery of the holy places, the rights of the Palestinians, and UN-doing the Israeli occupation of Arab territories, Super Powers will also yield. Unity in the Muslim World will lead to success in the liberation struggles in Eritrea, Kashmir, Afghanistan also, he said. A resolution adopted at the meeting called for the setting up of world Muslim army for the purpose. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 19 Apr 82 p 8]

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